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An Edrei Communications Company

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ON THE COVER: Lisa Bonet, Malcolm Jamal Warner, Keisha Knight-Pulliam and Tempestt Bledsoe are the four popular children on The Bill Cosby Show. Cover design by Guy Brown.

COLOR PIN-UP CREDITS:

Nate and Bernard Bronner
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Michael Jackson by T. C. Farley

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Right On!, (ISSN-0048-8305) U.S. Copyright © 1985, D.S. Magazines, Inc., Volume 15, Number 7, April, 1985, is published monthly by D.S. Magazines, Inc., with Executive and Editorial Offices at the D.S. Building, Cresskill, N.J. 07626. Please address all editorial and advertising mail to Right On!, the D.S. Building, Cresskill, N.J. 07626. Send self-addressed stamped envelopes with unsolicited manuscripts and photographs to the editors, or they will not be returned. Right On! will not be responsible for manuscripts and photographs in its offices or in transit. Subscriptions (subject to change without prior notice): United States, Possessions and APO-FPO, 12 issues, \$11.95. Canada, 12 issues, \$14.45. All other countries, \$15.45. United States, Possessions and APO-FPO, 24 issues, \$21.95. Canada, 24 issues, \$24.45. All other countries, 24 issues, \$26.45. Remit by check or postal money order; currency sent at subscriber's risk. Send no stamps (subscriptions will start within 60 days after receipt of order). Send subscription correspondence to Right On! Subscription Department, Cresskill, N.J. 07626. Notify Subscription Department of Change of Address at least six weeks in advance. Please include new address and mailing label from most recent issue. Single copy price in the United States, \$1.75. In Canada, \$2.25. Right On! is registered in the United States Patent Office. Second class postage paid at Cresskill, N.J. and at additional mailing offices. Nothing appearing in Right On! may be reprinted wholly or in part without written permission. Printed in the U.S.A. Postmaster: Send Form 3579 to Right On! Magazine, Cresskill, N.J. 07626. Member Audit Bureau of Circulations.

LAST MINUTE BITS AND PIECES

Hi There! Hope you all are getting ready for an exciting spring. We certainly plan to do our part to make it the best you've ever had. You've probably been going to lots of movies. I know I have. The latest **EDDIE MURPHY** flick, *Beverly Hills Cop*, is still cleaning up. For those of you who are not squeamish, *The Cotton Club* might be a go-see, though I advise you to read the story we run in this issue on that film. You might change your mind. A new film will be out soon starring **VANITY**. **SIDNEY POITIER** also has an action-packed dance film, *Fast Forward*, debuting. By now the fanfare of all the awards shows is sort of over with. At this time I would like to congratulate my friend **PRINCE** on all the nominations he's gotten for *Purple Rain*. **LIONEL RICHIE**, **JEFFREY OSBORNE**, **SHEILA E.**, **TINA TURNER**, **DENIECE WILLIAMS**, the **POINTER SISTERS** and **CHAKA KHAN** were all nominees for the recent Grammys. I ran into two of my friends from **CAMEO**, **LARRY BLACKMON** and **NATHAN LEFTENANT** who were in town producing an album on Syreeta. They attended a **KOOL AND THE GANG** concert which was held to raise funds for the United Negro College Fund. At a small reception held after the show, dozens of admirers of **JAMES TAYLOR** surrounded him for autographs. One young lady tried to be cool, but once her program was signed she went over into a private corner and screamed joyously. We caught contributing writer **CHARLES E. ROGERS** out that night with beautiful singer **LORETTA DIVINE**. Hmm. Our good friends, **NEW EDITION**, are in California recording a special song

called "Mama" for guess what occasion? Their album just went platinum and the single, "Cool It Now," went gold. They appreciate the *Right On!* readers buying all those copies. Now that the **NEW EDITION** has captured the hearts of America, all kinds of people are after them to do movies. The group's managers really want that to happen soon. Look for them on tour this spring. We hear from Toronto Soul Scissors owner **EUGENE MIMMS** that so many people have been stopping him on the street after having seen him appear in a recent *What's Happening* column with **DIANA ROSS** and a painting he gave her, that many people want to congratulate him and meet him. Well, that's the price of fame. One young celebrity was so intrigued by the painting that she stopped at an airport telephone booth to call him and ask to have one done. Congratulations to **JACKIE JACKSON** who was given a Man Watcher's Award. Yes, I'll agree he's worth watching! *Right On!* has always given **JACKIE** credit where credit is due. Now maybe he will become a model this time! Singer **DESIREE COLEMAN**, star of the off-Broadway hit *Mama, I Want To Sing*, and actor **JAMES BOND III** became very close after filming **JAMES BALDWIN**'s *Go Tell It On The Mountain* which aired recently. I had a nice long chat with **SHERYL LEE RALPH** who has a new series starting this month called *Code Foxfire*. She's had a lot of good breaks, the most significant, being *Dreamgirls*, but this is what she's always wanted. Gotta go. We're doing photo sessions with **KURTIS BLOW** and the **FAT BOYS!** 'Til next time, Cynthia Horner, Editor!!!



Cynthia Horner with friends Lionel and Brenda Richie who were in town for a dinner.



Don't forget to pick up the next issue of our mag. Kim Fields tells about her love life.

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Cynthia Horner
EDITOR

GIVE DEBARGES SPACE

Dear Editor:

Ever since James DeBarge and Janet Jackson got married, all I keep hearing about is how the Jacksons feel and what they think. Well, what about the DeBarges? Why doesn't anyone print anything about how they feel? You make it seem like their feelings about it are not important enough to write about. The DeBarges are a close family too, and I'm sure they have some feelings about James getting married just like the Jacksons do about Janet.

Every time I see an article on James and Janet it's about how Joe Jackson feels or what Michael Jackson thinks. Why doesn't anyone say what Etterlene DeBarge thinks or how El DeBarge feels?

I'm tired of reading about the Jacksons. Let's read some more on DeBarge!

A Reader In NY

GOOD GAME

Dear Editor:

I'm writing to tell you about the basketball game on Monday, December 17, 1984 between New Edition and the WKYS Allstars (a local Washington, D.C. radio station). The game was played at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, MD. The game was very good and exciting. I didn't know the New Edition could play so well. The game was tied, 98-98, but all the action was too much.

Like I said before, they were great. If you are reading this, Bobby, Ronnie, Ricky, Mike and Ralph, keep on doing what you do best—satisfying your fans with your good looks and great music.

A New Edition Freak
Lanham, MD

WHY DOES MICHAEL GET THE CREDIT?

Dear Editor:

I would like to know, why does Michael Jackson get all the credit. The other Jacksons are just as talented (or maybe even more talented), and outgoing as he is. I'm not saying I have something against Michael, but he simply gets *all* the credit. Without his brothers it would not be the Jackson Five, it would be just Michael Jackson and he wouldn't be where he is today.

The reason why I say this is, that everywhere all it says is "Michael and The Jacksons." I'm suggesting it should just simply say The Jacksons.

Monique Jackson
Pontiac, MI



I MET PATTI LABELLE

Dear Editor:

An avid fan of Patti LaBelle, I finally had the chance to meet her. The day after her concert with Bobby Womack in Merrillville, IN. Getting ready to go back to Chicago, I noticed Patti LaBelle walking to her bus. I yelled, "There's Patti LaBelle!" I ran and nervously asked her for an autograph.

Hoping that I'd get a chance to meet her while I was there, I brought along a Patti LaBelle scrapbook which I made. Patti is really nice, she invited me onto her traveling bus to sign my book. Meeting her was one of my dreams that came true.

Thanks Patti, for just being you.

Coretta Webb
Chicago, IL

MORE ON PHILIP

Dear Editor:

Thanks for the article on Philip Michael Thomas but I want more, more, more! I think his fans, especially me, would love a centerfold of this fine looking man from *Miami Vice*.

Yvonne Harmon
Atlanta, GA

A REAL PRINCE

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank Prince and his special guest Sheila E. for the wonderful concert they held in Washington, D.C. I attended three of the seven sold-out concerts at the Capital Center and they were excellent. Prince is a very talented and creative musician and he has set the image as a "musical genius."

While in Washington, Prince also held a charity benefit for the famous educator from Chicago, Marva Collins, and the Big Brothers of America, which has more than 1,000 black males in D.C. waiting to be matched with role models. He also held a free concert at Gallaudet College for the handicapped students from the campus and many public schools.

As Prince ended the concert that I attended, he touched my heart personally, and many others with some very sentimental concluding remarks. He said, "I'm not much on words, but I would like to say that we don't know how much time we have left on earth, so please do me just one favor, please try to love one another—Goodnight."

Prince, you are a real Prince, and Washington, D.C. loves you and we want you to come back very soon!

Sheila R. Finlayson
A Dedicated Prince
Fan

MORE ON MARCUS

Dear Editor:

I think *Right On!* is the best and Cindy, you are the greatest editor there is! There is one thing I am curious about, and that is Marcus Wyatt. He is the most gorgeous creature that has ever been in *Right On!* I am requesting that there be an article and centerfold on him.

Thanks, Cindy!

Monica Johnson
San Diego, CA



UNFAIR CRITICISM!

Dear Editor:

I have been reading your magazine for the past four and a half years and I would like to say that it is one of the best publications on the stands.

I would like to say something about the Diana Ross concert at Bayfront Centre in St. Petersburg, FL. on November 19, 1984.

What started out as near disaster, turned out to be a pleasant and satisfying evening. However, on behalf of my fellow Sun Coast Floridians, I feel it necessary to point out the real reason the audience was late.

Although I was not one of those who were late, my mother was. She told me after the concert, that she had arrived at the arena at 7:40 pm. She and hundreds of other motorists were led into the roadway surrounding the parking lot, completely around the arena, and back onto the street. She had to park at a "nearby" bus station and walk five blocks in the rain. She was in her seat at 8:10 pm.

It was the insufficient parking spaces, not a rude audience that almost ruined the show. Diana's put downs and derogatory remarks towards her fans were clearly unfair.

R. Evans
St. Petersburg, FL

POSITIVE RESPONSE

Dear Editor:

The article in *Right On!* in the Christmas Gift Guide was simply great. We have received a very positive response from your readers, with many of them requesting information about where the game can be purchased.

IDENTITY sincerely appreciates the time and effort involved in writing such a fantastic article.

Identity Concepts Inc.

LONG LIVE "PURPLE RAIN"

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to a letter from a F.J.M. from Decatur, GA. Well, I'm a very dedicated Prince fan but I'm just one of millions. So I have a message for that person.

To Mr. or Miss F.J.M.: I think that you are the most sorriest hum-drum person I have ever heard of. I disagree about what you said about Prince, but I do agree with you on one thing. And that's there are a lot of sick people in the world, and it's people like *you* that make this world so sick! U are the kind of person that doesn't that have any dreams or goals in life, but I do give you credit where credit is due. I respect a person's opinion, but your brain has a large leak in it.

Prince is a person who works hard to make others happy and tries to put a smile on someone's face. And it takes just one person like you to destroy what happiness is left in this world.

Prince and all of the characters who played in the movie were the best. They showed reality and the struggle it takes to try and get somewhere in this world, and to me people who can show feelings like that and also put across a point to the world, have a very special talent and love for others.

So I think you'd better go and buy the Purple Rain album and listen to "Purple Rain" and really listen to the message in the song. Then listen to "Baby I'm A Star" because Prince is a star, a bright purple star. And the song entitled, "God" where he says, "God made U, God made me, he made us all equally," and see if you can relate.

So I think you better come out of your purple bag, and let us guide U to the purple rain.

Purple Passion
Los Angeles, CA

RADICAL, TOTALLY RADICAL!

Dear Editor:

The February edition of *Right On!* was terrific. It was the best I've ever read. I was happy to see an article on my favorite celebrity, Randy Jackson. It was great! I loved the pin-up of Alfonso Ribeiro. I think he is gorgeous. And, the parts about New Edition and Malcolm Warner was totally radical! Keep up the good work on Prince, too.

Right On! is my favorite magazine, but do you think perhaps you can insert an article and some photos on Brian Mitchell?

An Interested Reader
Brunswick, GA

RAP IS WHERE IT'S AT!

Dear Editor:

I have been enjoying your magazine for

seven years, but I am sorry to say that I am disappointed by the lack of rap artists featured in your magazine. I would like to see more articles on Kurtis Blow, Lovebug Starsky, Whodini, Fearless Four, and Grandmaster Flash. Rap music has come a long way and I feel that it will go much further, so why not give credit where it's due?

Charles Rivers
Bronx, NY



MICHAEL MADE THEM

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in response to "Randy & Marlon's #1 Fan of B'kln" (Feb. 1985).

I am a 29-year-old man who enjoys the music of the New Edition. It brings me back to the early 1970s when I was a teenager, and first saw the J-5 at Madison Square Garden.

Just like before the J-5, we had Frankie Lymon and The Teenagers, now the new generation has New Edition. But let's face facts, the Jacksons are dead. Not one of the brothers (including Jermaine) has the talent of Michael.

"Victory" did not sell as well as everyone thought. It did not even come close to "Off the Wall." "Thriller" sold 35 million copies and that was Michael's solo LP. That album was the one that pushed the "Victory" tour.

I feel the Jacksons used Michael on his strength as a solo artist. Michael made my day when he announced that this would be his last tour with his brothers. I mean enough is enough. In about two or three years, Joe Jackson will beg Michael to help his brothers again. They'll be broke!

K. Brown
New York, NY

If you'd like to make comments, suggestions, or simply get something off your chest, send your letters addressed: Letters To The Editor, *Right On!* Magazine, 105 Union Ave., Cresskill, New Jersey 07626. Sorry, but due to the volume of mail, few letters may be answered personally.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

BY "H"

The last place you'd expect to find **PRINCE** is at a **MICHAEL JACKSON** concert. **PRINCE** is such a big star that he'd be mobbed by all those fans at a big stadium show. It wouldn't seem to be worth the hassle for him. Yet he attended one of the **JACKSON**'s big stadium shows in L.A. It turned out to be a nice experience for him. Fans were obviously thrilled to see him in person, but they didn't hassle him. **PRINCE**'s two-ton bodyguard **BIG CHICK** made sure he was left alone. This wasn't the first **MICHAEL JACKSON** show **PRINCE** has seen. When the **JACKSONS** appeared in Dallas, **PRINCE** was there. Supposedly, he's also been to several other **JACKSONS** shows but kept a low profile. According to **PRINCE**'s pals, he really respects **MICHAEL** as an artist and loves **MICHAEL**'s singing. **PRINCE** goes to the shows because he likes to see Michael perform.

Has **MICHAEL** gone to see **PRINCE** perform during **PRINCE**'s current tour? No one knows for sure. The word around the music industry is that **MICHAEL**, who often goes out in disguise, has gone to **PRINCE** concerts in one of his weird disguises.

Did Michael Attend A Prince Concert?

Two music business executives swear they saw **MICHAEL** at a **PRINCE** concert dressed as a little old man. So if you happen to see a little old man doing the moonwalk at a **PRINCE** concert, you'll know who it is.

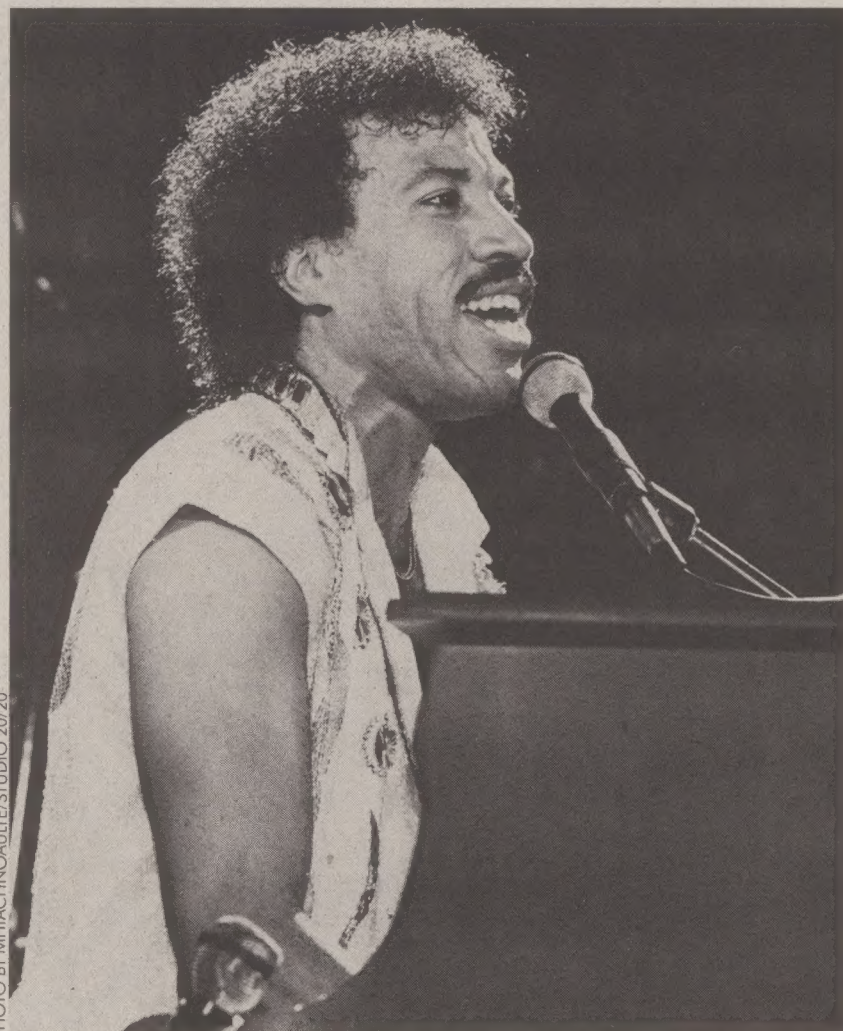
When the **JACKSONS** played L.A., actress **LIZ TAYLOR**, one of

lose one over a silly ticket problem.

In the last two years it's been almost impossible for **MICHAEL** and his brothers to have much privacy. Fans are bothering them all the time. So **MICHAEL** and a few of his brothers have spent several million dollars buying super-fancy condominiums

in Beverly Hills. They figure they'll have privacy in this high-security hideaway. Their fans don't know where this place is yet, but they'll soon find out. When they do, the fans will be hassling **MICHAEL** and his brothers as usual. Then the **JACKSONS** will probably move to another expensive hideaway. They'll be the first to tell you that being famous can be a pain in the neck.

Don't invite TV star **JOAN RIVERS** and ex-Miss America **VANESSA WILLIAMS** to the same party. If you did, you might have a brawl on your hands. **VANESSA** just might punch **JOAN** out. You couldn't blame **VANESSA**. **JOAN** said some nasty, vicious things about **VANESSA** in a recent magazine interview. **JOAN**, like



Lionel Richie, the master of love, is pleased to know that his tribute to Marvin Gaye, "Missing You" sung by Diana Ross is a hit.

MICHAEL's buddies, came to one of the shows. She created quite a stir too. One woman saw the famous actress and simply fainted. The woman said: "Oh my God, there's **LIZ TAYLOR**! Ahhhhhhhhhhhhhhh!" Then she fainted. Fortunately the man who was with her caught her before she hit the ground. Supposedly **LIZ** is mad at **MICHAEL** because the seats he got her and her friends weren't very good. **MICHAEL** will certainly make it up to her. He values friends too much to

many other people, was very upset over the nude pictures **VANESSA** posed for. As we all know, when those pictures were published in *Penthouse* magazine, **VANESSA**'s Miss America title was taken away. **JOAN**'s attack on **VANESSA** was surprising. **VANESSA** was a guest on "The Tonight Show," hosted by **JOAN**. On the show, she didn't seem too upset by what **VANESSA** had done. But **JOAN** obviously changed her opinion about **VANESSA**.

PHOTO BY MHI/ACHNOA/ITE/STUDIO 20/20

PHOTO BY GARY AZON



With all the pending lawsuits over the Jacksons' tour Papa Joe Jackson (shown photographing a show) is probably glad it's over.

In a magazine article recently, a psychic predicted that **VANESSA** would have a sizzling affair with **JOHN TRAVOLTA** this year. If that happens, the two most surprised people in show business will be **VANESSA** and **JOHN**. She's madly in love with her publicist **RAMON HERVEY**. (They even sent out a romantic holiday greeting postcard of themselves to their friends.) **JOHN'S**

ple are making resolutions to get rid of bad habits. At a New Year's Eve party in luxurious Malibu, the Pacific coast paradise just outside of L.A., a popular black singer made a major resolution. The singer, whose last name initial is **R**, said he was going to stop drinking. He's a terrible drunk. In fact, when he made the resolution, he was drunk. At another dinner

Is Earth, Wind And Fire Still Around?

party a few day later, also in Malibu, he was drunk. It doesn't look like **R** is going to stop drinking any time soon. At the New Year's Eve party, a friend of **R's** laughed when he heard **R's** resolution to stop drinking. He said **R** made the same resolution at a New Year's Eve party a year ago. This friend had some good advice for **R**: "He should make a resolution to stop making stupid resolutions"

What's happening with **EARTH, WIND AND FIRE**? Nobody seems to know. **MAURICE WHITE**, the group's leader, probably knows, but he's not talking. So the person who keeps getting asked about **EARTH, WIND AND FIRE** is **PHILIP BAILEY**. Currently, he's on a tour promoting his new solo album, *Chinese Wall*. But in interviews he spends as much time talking about **EW** as he does talking about his solo album, which was produced by pop-rock star **PHIL COLLINS**. Some music industry ex-

CONTINUED

The Jacksons Have Secret Hideaways

girlfriend is beautiful actress **MARILU HENNER**. Of course, in show biz, anything can happen, but don't look for **VANESSA** to have a fling with **JOHN** in '85.

The big new heartthrob in pro basketball is the Chicago Bulls' handsome rookie forward **MICHAEL JORDAN**. The Bulls are playing to packed houses these days largely thanks to big **MIKE**, who's a wizard with the basketball. He's a wizard with the females too. Teenaged girls who normally could care less about pro basketball are now showing up at Bulls games. They're not watching the court action either. They're too busy swooning over **MICHAEL**.

This is the time of year when peo-

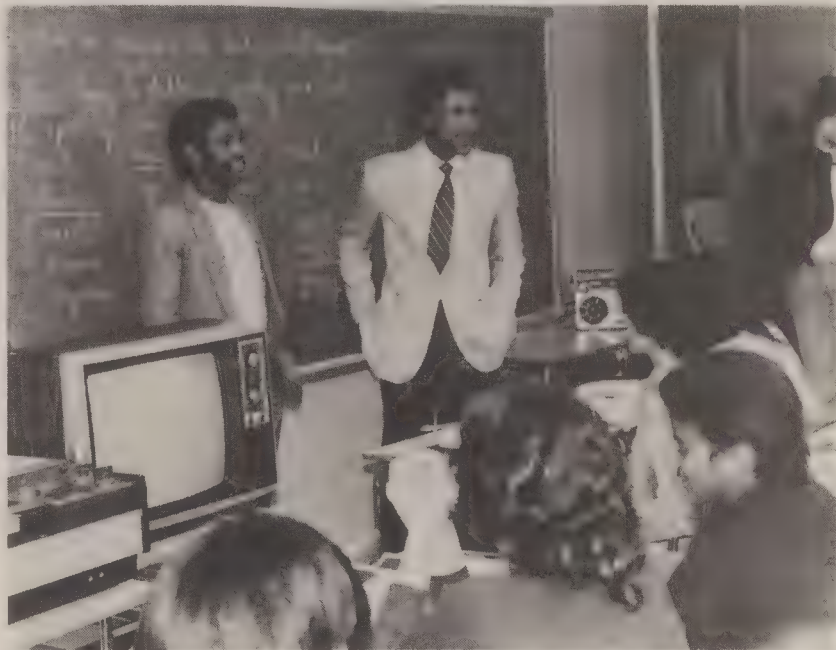


Model/actress Vanessa Bell has a big part on "All My Children" opposite one of the stars of the series Darnell Williams.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW PEARSON



Todd with good friend Kim Fields.



Robert Bell and James Taylor of Kool & The Gang say after visiting a school, "Education is important to help youth move ahead."



At a party for Grammy-winner Melissa Manchester, who should show up but Howard Hewett and Melissa's producer George Duke.

perts are saying maybe we've seen the last of **EWF. MAURICE** is busy with various musical projects and, as far as any one knows, has no plans for **EWF**.

A New Year's Eve show at the Palace, a top L.A. nightclub, turned into a disaster. Everyone was there to bring in the new year listening to **CHAKA KHAN**. The ticket prices very, very expensive. But not too many fans went away happy. First of all, the show started very late. There was a long line of people standing outside the club waiting for the first show to end. Standing on a sidewalk on a cold night is no way to spend New Year's Eve. The fans didn't seem too happy with the show either. **CHAKA** was not at her best. Everyone was saying that her performances were very sloppy. One angry fan, who had driven 75 miles to see the show, summed it up nicely: "Sitting home watching TV on New Year's Eve is better than this. I should have saved my money."

At a New Year's Eve party given by a TV producer in the hills above Hollywood, a pretty, well-known white actress showed up with a young black musician. He's a member of a fast-rising soul group. Both are married. Yet, they spent most of the party necking passionately in a corner. Everyone at the party was shocked but they didn't seem to care. It was probably a very unhappy New Year's Eve for her husband and his wife. •

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CFRL



If People Would Only Care

Calvin Levels is a young man who worries about starving children. And it's one of life's ironies that he had to eat like a glutton to gain the 30 pounds he needed to play Wayne Williams in the recent mini-series, *The Atlanta Child Murders*. "I stopped working out," he recalls. "I ate huge amounts of calories—pasta and cheese and cream sauce, ice cream, beer, banana splits for breakfast. Physically, I felt terrible. It took months to get back in shape after the film, but I'm back to running six miles a day and eating a well-balanced diet."

And diet is what concerns Levels these days—a concern he equates with the murders in Atlanta. "There were lots of kids killed there, and there are still lots of kids dying all over the world. And if people don't care about people being killed,

that's the last straw—we're in big trouble.

"I went to Atlanta and talked to people who knew Williams and people who wrote about the events," he adds as he remembers the research which went into the role. "I met with mothers of the victims whose murders and disappearances have not resulted in any trials. They feel betrayed by the authorities and the media. They're not so sure it was Williams or even that it was just one man."

His experience in Atlanta, where children were brutalized, and recent headlines of children starving in Africa, have heightened Levels' concern for helpless youngsters. "We have to seriously stop and look at what's going on in our society, and around the world. It can become barbaric when kids have no one to protect them. Children don't have to be killed; children in Africa don't have to starve."

Vanity Creates A Pretty Mess

Vanity enjoys shocking her listeners. She claims Prince, her mentor, attempted to name her after a certain part of the female anatomy, but they compromised with the name "Vanity." She's also a self-proclaimed romantic: "I've never been to bed with a man I didn't love." She says she misses Prince (they reportedly broke up because she needed one person to love her and he needed more). "I miss his humor," she reflects. "I always felt we'd be like Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor." Vanity's first movie is now out, *The Last Dragon*, and it's a fantasy-romance martial arts flick which features music by DeBarge.



A Walkman Bridged The Music Gap

If it weren't for the invention of the Walkman, Phillip Bailey's new solo album might never have been called *The Wall*. Bailey, who doubles as the lead singer for Earth, Wind and Fire explains, "I was about to fly from Los Angeles to London to record with producer Phil Collins (*Genesis*) when I got a call from Roxanne Seeman in New York. Roxanne had written 'Sail Away' for

me for Earth, Wind and Fire. She said she had a song she wanted me to hear. I had a stopover in New York, so Roxanne came out to the airport and played the song for me on her Walkman. The minute I heard it, I knew I wanted it." The song's name: "The Chinese Wall." Says Bailey, "I guess this is one case where China got some good out of a Japanese invention."



Michael's Been Waxed

There are Michael Jackson jigsaw puzzles, bubblegum cards, jackets, gloves, hats, sequined sox, talking viewmasters, dolls, etc., but now there's something new. What, might you ask? Well, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, they've now got a waxed wonderkid in the Guinness World Records

Museum. According to sources, he allowed one mask of his face to be cast for the museum and its sister museum in San Francisco. Despite some criticism from local residents who feel the gloved one isn't as beloved as Elvis Presley, Michael Jackson is the favorite figure on display states curator Charlie Moore. Oh, one more thing, when the figure was first brought to the museum the infamous glove was

missing. It was on order from a Canadian designer. We're sure it's there by now.

In other M.J. news: An observer of the Jehovah Witness believes that Michael Jackson's popularity can only help the religious group rather than hurt it. David Riccoboni said in an interview, "It is the first time the Witness kids have had someone to look up to. Otherwise they lead a very drab life."

It Won't Rain On Morris' Parade

People who have seen Morris Day's hilarious performance in *Purple Rain* have been wondering if the man they saw on screen is the same hysterically funny man off screen. "I like to have fun, do things, talk to people. I like to make lots of noise, and I like the opportunity to be around lots of women. Did he think Prince might have been a little envious about the amount of attention his protegee received? "Well, I suppose it would inhibit me if I broke somebody cold, gave him a total of ten minutes on the screen and he got reviews like that!" Day is now working on a solo album for Warner Bros. Don't expect him to do everything he's done before—he's thinking about trying someone new. He also just signed a three-picture deal, so *Purple Rain* is obviously just the beginning of his fame! •



SHRIMP

A REAL TURBO CHARGER!

You've seen him in "Breakin'" and now its sequel, but what's he all about?



Michael "Shrimp" Chambers is the appropriately named "Turbo in Cannon Films' production of "Breakin' II." For most of his dance numbers, this "turbo-charged" 17-year-old is a whirling blur as he performs his gravity-defying breaks, pops, locks, and spins.

Affectionately nicknamed "Shrimp" by his sister, this lithe young dancer has found his expectations about films and dancing have changed through his experiences.

"Acting is real fun," he enthusiastically states, "but it's also hard work. I didn't understand just how hard it was going to be. I mean, getting up at 6:00 in the

morning is tough enough. But the director is always telling you to do a scene over and over again. You have to try and remember what you did the last time so you can do it right the next time around. That takes a lot of energy and concentration. I'm just lucky to have all of that."

Although devoted to the street dancing he does best, Shrimp no longer wants to be limited to one dance form. "I always figured ballet and jazz were hard. But now that I know the basics, they're real fun. Being a dancer, I can get the moves down once I hear the music and get a liking for it. When that happens you feel good around it, and that's how I like to feel when I dance."

A member of the "Shabba-Doo Crew" dance troupe, Shrimp is an ardent fan of its founder, Adolfo "Shabba-Doo" Quinones. "I look up to him because he knows what

he's talking about. I learn from him, but he's learning from me also. He talks with me to try and make things easier, because he's run into the same brick walls before, and he wants me to go around them instead."

While streetdancing is making the cross-over to established schools of dance, such as jazz, Shrimp envisions the reverse also becoming true. "A lot of street-dancers won't learn jazz. But if they see me doing jazz, they'll say, 'If Shrimp does it, then it's O.K.,' and they won't feel out of place."

As with anyone who gains celebrity status, Shrimp finds himself receiving considerable recognition, particularly from the opposite sex.

And there is also a slew of new contenders calling Shrimp, and others out to do their moves. "We call them fleas, 'cause they're always diving and jumping in front of us wherever we walk, challenging us to show off our stuff."

Prior to "Breakin'" Shrimp appeared in a number of television commercials, a documentary for ON TV entitled "Breaking and Entering," and the famous Lionel Richie music video, "All Night Long." In addition, Shrimp toured with Richie and was on the American Music Awards show last year.

"I hope I can someday see street-dancing as a classical dance," Shrimp concludes. "I don't want it to die out like a fad. But for myself, it's always been my goal to be a professional dancer, somebody that could make it. First it was videos and commercials, and now it's a feature film. So I'm gradually growing, and at different levels." •



By now everyone knows of the whirlwind courtship of Janet Jackson and James DeBarge that culminated with their marriage in September, 1984. Like family members, Tito, Rebbie, Jermaine, Marlon and Bunny, the singing couple opted for marriage at an early age. In the beginning, of course, was the usual disapproval when two young lovers elope Romeo and Juliet style.

After awhile, it looked like the families got used to it and were

accepting them as each others' respective spouses. Janet and James began spending evenings at the Jacksons' luxurious English-tudor home, Janet has been seen driving around Hollywood with some of her DeBarge brothers-in-law and a special guest table was reserved by her sister-in-law Hazel who had invited them to an exclusive surprise birthday party for Jermaine. (The couple couldn't make it, but Jackie and Marlon were there.)

During Christmas vacation,

California-raised Janet experienced one of her first official winters when she accompanied her husband to his hometown, Grand Rapids, Michigan where the entire DeBarge clan gathered to spend Christmas with their mother Etterline. Bet a lot of mid-westerners were thrilled to get a glimpse of the very recognizable 18-year-old television and singing star.

It may seem like Janet and James are just having fun and games, but nothing can be further from the truth. Some very important changes have been taking place in Janet's life and her husband has really had to stand by her side.

According to a television spokesperson, Janet is no longer a member of the *Fame* cast she joined this summer; she has resigned because she is "in a family way." To be more specific, in the terminology expressed in a New York Daily News column written by Marilyn Beck, "Janet has joined the growing ranks of celebrities who are expecting babies."

Yes, it appears to be true even though there was no official comment from the Jackson family at press time. That is not surprising, though, as they have yet to comment on the marriage except for a brief quote by Joe Jackson who was caught off-guard by a black weekly news-magazine. (DeBarge has also not commented on his marriage to his three-year younger bride as he has stated to sources that his marriage is a private matter.)

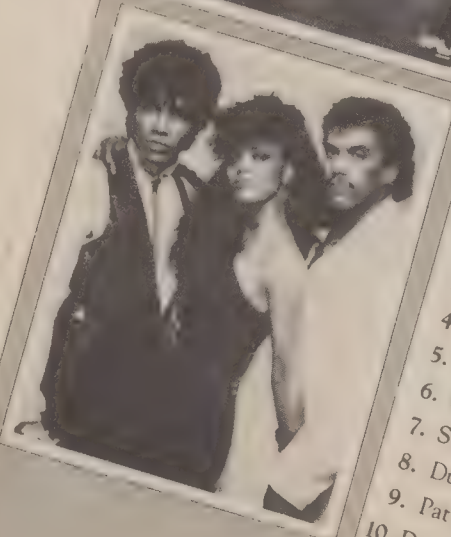
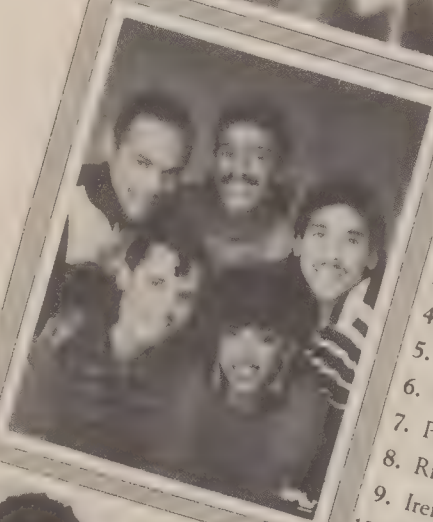
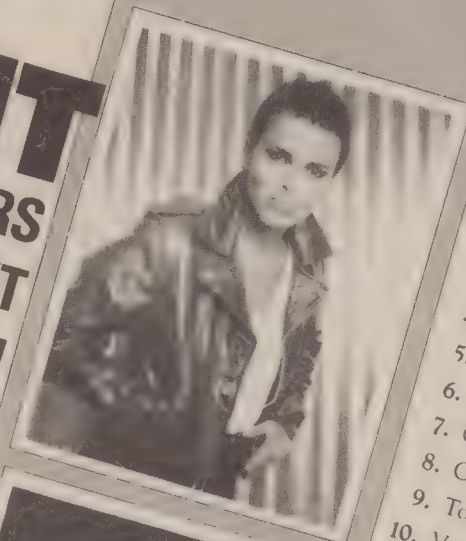
We wish Janet and James the best of luck and will furnish more details as they become available. Just keep reading *Right On!*



Is *Fame* Fleeting For Janet Jackson DeBarge?

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CFRL

Why The Cosby Kids



Tempt You To The Tube

BY CYNTHIA HORNER

The impressive "30 Rock," NBC-TV's Manhattan headquarters is my meeting place this Friday with Malcolm Jamal Warner, the sparkling-eyed handsome young co-star of "The Bill Cosby Show." I'm to catch Malcolm during a study break so I have to hurry through the unfamiliar confusing building so I don't miss a single minute of this important interview for *Right On!*'s cover story.

As I speed down the hall I meet up with Malcolm's attractive mother who escorts me to a tiny room for the four hours of lessons he's required to put in each day. On the way we run into tiny Keisha Knight-Pulliam and show her a press proof of the cover of this issue. She stares at it silently, handing it back to us reluctantly. Whether she was sleepy from her late night on the set or just in awe of seeing herself on another magazine cover, it was hard to say.

Just then enthusiastic Malcolm entered the room. He's a

tall (5'9"), muscular young man, a far cry from the small younger looking fella we have photos of. His fans would really go crazy over him then!

Tall Tempestt Bledsoe stops in the room for a second. Like Malcolm, her real-life appearance differs from what we've seen in the magazine. These kids are spouting up like weeds right before our eyes. And they look even more attractive than ever.

"How much time do the cast members spend with each other off the set?" I asked. "Not much," he said. "Usually when there's a hiatus, everyone goes out of town. I see Lisa the most since we only live 10 minutes away from each other."

"What has been the type of reaction you get from fans?" "A lot of people write to me and ask for pictures. A 13-year-old guy wrote to ask advice on how to keep out of trouble at home. I got another letter from someone who wanted to know how to get rid of pimples. Some letters ex-

press interest in what shows I've done in the past."

Because "The Bill Cosby Show" is so realistic I asked Malcolm if people relate to his character rather than to him as an average person. He said yes. "Sometimes people come up to me and ask me how come I don't get in trouble when I talk back to my dad." He seldom goes out on the street alone as a result of his blossoming popularity. "When I go places, there's usually someone with me," he admits.

Does working with Cosby intimidate the young performer? "No, it hasn't. It's still coming to me that I'm working with *the* Bill Cosby. The same Bill Cosby who has been around for 20 years. He has a nice personality. He's funny. He acts like a parent and a friend around us. Sometimes his children come down to the set. The oldest daughter is in college, so she came down last week. His son Ennis comes down frequently."

CONTINUED





I reminded Malcolm that on a previous occasion when I was to interview him, the appointment was cancelled as Cosby had invited him to see him perform in

Atlantic City. "That's right," Malcolm's eyes sparkled. "I hadn't been there before. It reminded me of Las Vegas. I had a great time. I was in the game

room playing various arcade games. My favorites are Ms. Pac Man and Centipede."

Since I have a younger cousin, Derrick, who also likes to play arcade games, I asked Malcolm if he's fallen victim to the home arcade game craze. "No. I'm still trying to get a Commodore 64 computer. My mom keeps telling me to give her three reasonable reasons why I need one. I've only been able to come up with one reason so far, so until I have two more . . ." His voice trailed off. I try to help him by offering valid reasons of my own (to do your homework and reports) while his mom smiles noncommittally.

I asked Malcolm how much free time does he have with his appearance on a weekly half-hour series. "I have none between homework and the show," he smiles. "I'm taking first year Spanish, algebra, English and history. I like algebra a lot. Last year I liked English the best. Tempestt and Keisha have their own tutors but Lisa and I share one. (Lisa at the moment is in the editing room watching an episode come together at the hands of technicians.) Whenever we're not on the set, we're in class.

"Is it easier or more difficult to do your schoolwork this way?" "It's easier for me because there are less students and I can have the pace adjusted to suit my needs."

"Do you miss your friends from school?" "Yes, but I know that if I were there, I'd probably be one of the students who the teacher would ask to be quiet. It has its advantages and disadvantages." ●

END OF PART ONE. STAY TUNED NEXT MONTH FOR PART TWO WHERE MALCOLM SPILLS THE BEANS ON HIS TV SISTERS. YOU MAY WRITE TO MALCOLM WARNER AND THE OTHER CAST MEMBERS IN CARE OF *RIGHT ON!* MAGAZINE, 105 Union Ave., Cresskill, NJ 07626.



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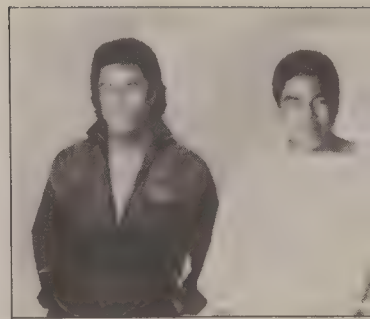
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THE JACKSONS' TRIVIA QUIZ



BY VERONICA BYRD

- 1) How many children are there in the Jackson family?
- 2) What was the name of the elementary school Michael attended?
- 3) What was the *first* record label the Jackson Five recorded on? (HINT: No, it wasn't Motown.)
- 4) Name the street the Jacksons lived on in Gary, Indiana.
- 5) Which Jackson brother is twenty-seven years old?
- 6) Which Jackson was born on October 29th?
- 7) How many Grammys did Michael win on February 28th?
- 8) How many songs from the *Thriller* album were released as singles?
- 9) Who produced the *Off The Wall* album?
- 10) Where is Michael's fav vacation spot?
- 11) What was Joe Jackson's career?
- 12) What year did the Jacksons move to California?
- 13) What was the name of the *last* Jackson Five album that Motown released?
- 14) What record company president once returned a tape of the Jackson Five?
- 15) What is Marlon's wife's name?
- 16) Who is the young Michael Jackson imitator in the Pepsi commercial that features kids dancing in the street?
- 17) What is the career of Jackie's wife Enid?
- 18) On what day and year was the first "Jackson Five Day" held in Gary, Indiana?
- 19) Who was Michael's date at the 1984 People's Choice Awards?
- 20) What is Jackie's first name? (Surprise. It is not Jackie.)
- 21) What is Mrs. Jackson's first name?
- 22) What was the Jackson Five's first number one song?
- 23) How many awards have the Jacksons won? (Including Michael and Jermaine and all gold and platinum singles and albums and Grammys and People's Choices and Image Awards and . . .)
- 24) What was the name of the group Joe Jackson once performed with?
- 26) What year were Joe and Katherine Jackson married?
- 27) What was the first album written and produced by the Jackson brothers?
- 28) What was Mrs. Jackson's job when the family was young and living in Gary?
- 29) What does Michael mean when he uses the word "jelly" in reference to something?
- 30) What was the first solo song nominated for a Grammy sung by Michael?
- 31) How old was Jackie when the group got its break into the music world in 1970?
- 32) Where were the Jackson Five's first *major* concert appearances?
- 33) Which of the brothers enjoyed fishing when he was young?
- 34) Name the J-5 member who enjoyed cars and mechanics.
- 35) Which of the Jackson Five was known for his "quietness" and described as the lovable one of the group?
- 36) Who chose the clothes for the young Jacksons?
- 37) Who was the hit song *I Want You Back* originally written for?
- 38) Who is Randy's steady lady these days?
- 39) What national magazine cover did the brothers and their parents appear on in September of 1971?
- 40) How many singles did the Jackson Five record on their previous label before signing with Motown?
- 41) What were the titles of the singles recorded on the label?
- 42) Who was the first of the Jackson brothers to marry? What is his wife's name?
- 43) Which of the brothers holds a degree in music?
- 44) Which person with the last name of Jackson contributed his musical talents to Stacy Lattisaw's albums? What instrument did he play?
- 45) Name the first single to be released from LaToya's new album.
- 46) What is the name of Janet's favorite recording from her first album?
- 47) What is the latest film that the director of the *Thriller* video, John Landis, is known for?
- 48) Name the first televised special the Jackson Five appeared on in 1969. (HINT: Before the *Ed Sullivan Show*.)
- 49) What Broadway musical is the *Beat It* video lead choreographer Michael Peters known for?
- 50) What was the name of Michael's first solo album?
- 51) Which one of Michael's videos does LaToya appear in?
- 52) In the *Thriller* video, as Michael exits to catch up with his date Ola



Ray, what statement is heard from the screen by the audience?

- 53) What was the televised special that the Jackson Five appeared on in 1970 with Diana Ross and the Supremes?
- 54) What two songs has Michael produced and for what artists?
- 55) Who gave the brothers the name "Jackson Five"?
- 56) How did Michael do the disappearing act during the show of the 1981 concert tour?
- 57) Who wrote *P.Y.T. (Pretty Young Thing)* on the *Thriller* album?
- 58) How many albums did Jermaine record on the Motown label, after he departed from the group?
- 59) When Maureen appeared on *Soul Train* a couple of years ago, who was she singing backup for?
- 60) What is Michael's religion?
- 61) What dance did Michael and his brothers help populate during the period when their song *Dancing Machine* was a hit?
- 62) What is the third song that appears on the Jackson Five's fifth album on side one?
- 63) Who co-wrote the song *Can You Feel*

It? with Michael?

- 64) What two monsters appear on the screen of the *Thriller* drawing done by Michael, on the inside cover sheet of the album?
- 65) What is one of LaToya's fav fashion accessories?
- 66) Janet is often seen wearing a key on her earring. What does the key open? (HINT: Sorry fellas, it's not the key to her heart.)
- 67) What were the names of the characters Janet portrayed in the television series *Good Times* and *Diff'rent Strokes*?
- 68) Why does Michael wear only one sequined glove?
- 69) What identical actions do the *Beat It* video and the *Thriller* video have in common? (Besides the dancing.)
- 70) What movie is Michael considering doing a re-make of?
- 71) What song did Michael and Diana Ross sing together?
- 72) Name the two songs that were *not* released as singles on the album *Thriller*.
- 73) What is the second song on side two of the *Thriller* album?
- 74) What was the song *Superstar* about?
- 75) Who is the *Thriller* album dedicated to?
- 76) The Jacksons' "concert" commercial

for Pepsi-Cola was filmed at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles. What awards ceremony, attended by Michael, was later held there?

- 77) Name the best-selling single from the *Thriller* album.
- 78) Which single went platinum on the Jacksons' self-produced *Destiny* album?
- 79) What record label is Jermaine presently signed with?
- 80) In weird Al Yankovic's "comic" re-make of the *Beat It* video entitled *Eat It*, what do the two lead gang members fight over?
- 81) Name the *four* consecutive chart busters of the Jackson Five as they launched their career in 1969.
- 82) Who was the Corporation and what did they do?
- 83) Who originally sang the classic *Daddy's Home*, one of Jermaine's big hits?
- 84) What was the name of the early Michael J. re-make, once performed by Bobby Day?
- 85) Which two years consecutively were the Jacksons named Best Group at the Image Awards?
- 86) Name five of the ten gold singles of the Jackson Five. (If you wanna be bad, name *all ten*.)
- 87) Name the three platinum plus albums by Michael and his brothers.
- 88) What is the name of the family's pet llama?
- 89) What neighborhood was the *Beat It* video filmed in?

- 90) Unscramble the letters, name the popular J-5 hit: AS-MAM REPAL
- 91) IGNCADN CHNIEMA
- 92) TLIETL TYITB RTYPTE OEN
- 93) What was the title of Jackie Jackson's solo album and what year was it released?
- 95) What are the Jacksons pictured doing in the center cover of the album *Goin' Places*?
- 95) On the cover of the album *Moving Violations*, the picture is of the J-5 apparently in a very sticky situation. What is the situation and who is at the driving wheel?
- 96) What song appears on the flip sides of both the *Thriller* 45 and the *Billie Jean* single?
- 97) What popular female artist recently re-made the Jackson Five hit *Got To Be There*?
- 98) What musical instrument did mother Katherine and sister LaToya play?
- 99) Name the mayor of Gary, Indiana who contributed to the Jackson Five's early success.
- 100) Who sing lead for the J-5 before Michael?

PLUS

- 1) Name the popular soul and pop king that Michael often mimicked in his early days of performing.

PLUS

- 2) What was the "phrase" used to describe the Jackson Five's style of

continued on page 67

Like A Virgin, Madonna Is Revered

When Madonna was in town filming her first movie, reporter Lisa Arcella caught up with the gorgeous sexy singer who stole Prince's place on the music charts. A visit to an abandoned Harlem ballroom where part of the filming of "Desperately Seeking Susan" took place proved to be quite an adventure.

BY LISA ARCELLA

RO: *What do you think acting can give you that music can't?*

MADONNA: Credibility in the film industry! (Giggle.)

RO: *Are you looking to be known as a total performer?*

MADONNA: Yes. But I can't decide what I'm looking to be. I'm just trying out things that interest me and I want to be as good as possible, at whatever I do.

RO: *You seem to be pretty self-confident. Have you always been that way?*

MADONNA: I've always been pretty confident, but on the other hand, I can be really insecure. I think most performers are that way.

RO: *What kind of fan mail have you been getting from your audience?*

MADONNA: I get letters from

little boys who want to make love to me and girls who admire the way I look and dress. It's pretty adoring and they're young, too.

RO: *How has your privacy been affected by your success?*

MADONNA: It's annoying sometimes when I walk down the street or go to a grocery store. People always bother you for autographs and sometimes you don't feel like being sociable. But you don't want to alienate people. But the problem isn't as bad in New York which is where I live.

RO: *What about your background? Were you encouraged to go into show business as a child?*

MADONNA: No. My father is a very conservative Catholic Italian. He thought I was a show-off and that's not really considered proper in the Catholic church to go onstage and make a spectacle of

CONTINUED





yourself. I was always very sexy, even as a little girl, and I knew that I was. My father saw that and I think it scared him.

RO: *So you really had to make it on your own then?*

MADONNA: Well, I didn't go to New York with my father's good wishes or anything, in fact, he was very angry with me.

RO: *What about now?*

MADONNA: I think he still has mixed feelings. I'm sure he's glad I'm doing well, but I don't think he truly understands what I'm doing. Before he heard my records, it all seemed very mechanical to him. If I had said I was going to be a biochemist or a doctor, he could have understood it. But to say that I was going to be a performer didn't make sense to him.

RO: *Are you an only child?*

MADONNA: I have eight brothers and sisters. Most of them are involved in some facet of the arts.

RO: *Do you think success has made you a better person?*

MADONNA: I don't think success makes you a better person. Hopefully, the learning that you do and the education you get as you move up will make you a better person. It's nice to have the opportunity to do what you want to do. That's fulfilling. And to have recognition and respect.

RO: *Are you happy with your career right now?*

MADONNA: Definitely. Except right now; they won't let me go home!

RO: *What have you been doing to pass time on the set?*

MADONNA: Reading, playing music, dancing, exercising in my trailer and talking to my friends.

RO: *Your bio describes your sound as being Motown/R&B. Do you agree?*

MADONNA: My first album was like that more so than the new one. I was influenced by Motown artists though, especially Michael Jackson.

RO: *Do you have favorite actresses?*

MADONNA: The late Carole Lombard and Jessica Lange.

RO: *How would you describe yourself?*

MADONNA: I'm very adventurous!



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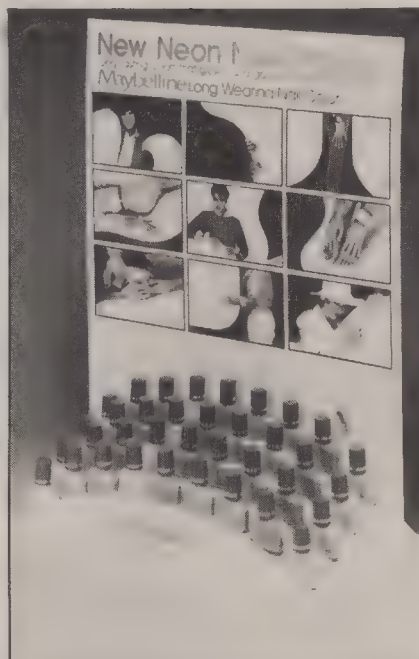
BY GAIL ANN KIZNER

We'd like to hear from you, too, if by any chance you come across a new product which would be good to share with the readers. Please send your tips in new products to Gail Ann Kizner, 105 Union Avenue, Cresskill, New Jersey 07626. If we use your tip, you'll receive credit and a special surprise gift.

HOT ROCK STICKERS



When you want to rock on with your favorite rockers, check out these new rock stickers from Determined Productions Inc. The stickers feature all of your favorites including: **The Jacksons, Hall & Oates, The Police, Huey Lewis, Thompson Twins, Wham** and **Duran Duran**, are available in most stationery and department stores, and record shops. Prices range from 50¢ and up. These stickers are great for notebooks, lockers, gifts, mirrors, walls, closets, cars—you name it—they can and will stick-on just about everywhere. What's more, these stickers list valuable fan club information on the back, so you can keep what you need, or if you get two stickers, you can give one to a friend! And, shh, here's a super *Right On!* secret . . . we've been told there are also plans to produce these stickers in a "binder" size . . . so, natch, as always, we'll keep you posted on the up-and-coming details!



TURN ON THE ELECTRICITY!

Yes, ladies, fashion colors this spring are brighter, fresher, cleaner and more vibrant than they've been in years gone by! And what has Maybelline got to turn on the light? How about nine neon shades of Long Wearing Nail Color to start? Long Wearing Nail Color—in cream rather than frosted—provides that finished look that lasts and lasts—keeping its just-put-on freshness for days and days. The must-have colors include White Light, Daring Daffodil, Precocious Pink, Jazzy Mint, Electric Blue, Upbeat Blue, Very Very Violet, Cut-Loose Coral and Breathless Beige. The polish itself dries quickly and resists chipping. You can buy a bottle beginning this April; the price is \$1.75 (suggested retail). P.S. With Maybelline's Long Wearing Neon Nail Color you'll be in fashion from your fingers right down to your toes!



YOU CAN SHAPE & HOLD, NOW!

So you want a lip liner that shapes and holds? How about a terrific lip liner duo from Flame Glow called Shape & Hold? Shape & Hold lip liners are lip definers that really do hold the line! What's more, these double-dazzlers are two-toned, which means you have one color on each end, to complement and define your gorgeous lips! There are six double ended liners of coordinating

shades (in a creamy yet firm formula that applies smoothly, evenly, not skipping or dragging, and that really does control lipstick bleeding and feathering) including Wild Orchid/Deep Iris; Luscious Plum/Cocoa Mauve; Spiced Burgundy/Baked Adobe; Poppy Pink/Rose Bouquet; Lusty Lavender/Blackberry Wine; and Sunny Coral/Blazing Copper. The lip liners, which can work with any lipstick shade, or without to create some super special and super hot lip lining effects are on sale, now, for about \$2.50 each.

INTRODUCING . . . DIANA ROSS HOSIERY

That's right! Diana Ross now has a hosiery line bearing her name! This spring, Diana joined forces with Nantucket Hosiery Mills to "do for pantyhose what she has always done for pop music: creating beautiful and exciting new styles that everyone can enjoy."

Says Diana, "I want women to move away from the idea that in order to have style, they must spend huge sums of money buying the latest fashions. It's so unnecessary. Style is something every woman can afford. It simply means finding ways to express what you're about with a little flair. So, each woman creates her own style—she just has to be a little creative. And what better way than with pantyhose? With a quick switch of hose you can change a single outfit from elegant to casual or even all the way to funky. Also, an outfit is quickly revitalized when teamed up with a new, vibrant pair of pantyhose. I hope the range of colors, I've chosen, from elegant Caviar (black) to shocking Cherries Jubilee (hot pink), plus Cognac (taupe), French Nude, Purple Flambe, and Eclair will widen the choices a woman will feel she has available to carry out her own personal style, and to explore new areas of style."

Diana Ross Hosiery is available in both sheer and ultrasheer styles, in packages bearing her glamorous photograph, and her signature on the front. The reverse side of the package has a slot revealing Diana's signature in gold on the pantyhose. The signature is placed so that it will appear on the wearers' derriere. You can buy the hosiery at \$3.00 a pair.

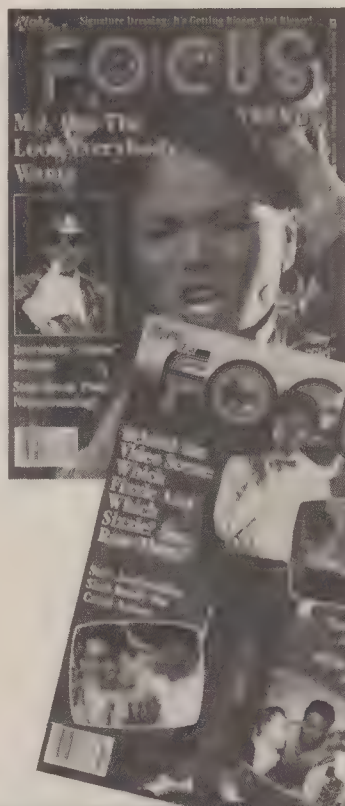
Concludes Diana, "I conducted an informal survey among women as to what they were looking for in a pantyhose. Everyone I talked to—from airline stewardesses to the ladies in my own office said that price was as important as fashion and quality. They want good, fashionable pantyhose at a reasonable price. So, I set out to turn my ideas on pantyhose into a pair that every woman could afford."

And so she has.

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MICHAEL'S ★ LUCKY STAR

When Michael Jackson received the 1,793th star on Hollywood Blvd., it was an event to remember.



PHOTO BY BILL JONES



PHOTO BY CHRIS WALTER/PHOTOFEATURES

Michael, who has built one of the most successful recording careers of all time, was honored with his very own star.

Now signed to star in a motion picture by Geffen, Michael enjoyed the personal attention given to him at the ceremony. The Jacksons got a star, too, in the past.



PHOTOS BY BILL JONES

Johnny Grant, Honorary Mayor of Hollywood and Chairman of the Walk of Fame Committee served as Master of Ceremonies for the event officiated by Bill Welsch, President of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce while Jackie, Joe, and Kate Jackson watched. A lot of fans got injured and the ceremony ended abruptly.



Police made every attempt to prevent Michael from being injured at the widely-publicized event which was held in front of Graumann's Chinese Theater, a tourist attraction where stars footprints are cemented.



More than 4,000 fans were in attendance to get a glimpse of the loved gloved one who definitely said he would be there. The excitement was similar when the Jacksons' received their star.



Michael got frightened when he was mobbed and poor photographers shared his fear, for good reason. The passion Michael evokes from his fans can be extremely dangerous. Glad we were a distance away!



SUPER SNAP 'N STYLE!

SPRING INTO SOME RIGHT ON! FASHION WITH

Spring has sprung, and with the change in seasons comes a change in wardrobe! On these pages we have styles worth snapping your fingers for . . . and best of all, they're styles you can "learn to sew for fun!"

Especially from McCall's are these easily-sewable styles; styles to set your sights on when you're a beginning sewer and want to have fun!

If you've a brother or a boyfriend, why not create for him a gift that shows you care? The fabric patterns are yours (or his!) to choose, but the style remains the same. Select McCall's Pattern 9136 for the men's pullover short sleeved and front-buttoned shirts. McCall's Pattern 8715 is for the men's pull-on shorts with or without color coordinating piping.

Otherwise, how about a zesty style for yourself, a sister, or a girlfriend? Try McCall's Pattern 9029. It features a straight, unlined double breasted vest with pullover top, a full pleated skirt, and pleated cropped pants or shorts (as shown).

Last, but not least, are his and hers active wear. For you and your romantic someone—twins—maybe even mom and dad—McCall's Patterns 9388 and 8714/8715 are the key to creating his and hers loose fitting pullover tops and pull-on pants. Yes, this spring you can easily "fall into the Gap!" while also "learning to sew for fun!"

But best of all, you'll know you did it yourself! Then when summer rolls around, you'll be ready to make yourself a swim suit!



CREDIT
COURTESY OF THE McCALL PATTERN
COMPANY, NYC

How to handle peer pressure.

If some of your friends smoke, and they make you feel like you should smoke, too, that's "peer pressure."

But even though we're a cigarette company, we think young people shouldn't smoke. Even the decision to smoke or not to smoke should wait until you're an adult.

So we put together these ideas to help you recognize peer pressure—and resist it.

Tactic #1: Go ahead and take a puff—what's the matter, are you chicken?

Answer: You must think I'm pretty dumb to fall for that one. It takes a lot more guts to do your own thing than to just go along with the crowd.

Tactic #2: Come on, all the cool kids smoke.

Answer: Maybe the kids who smoke are trying to *look* cool. But if they really *were* cool, maybe they wouldn't have to try so hard.

Tactic #3: Hey, I'm your friend—would I steer you wrong?

Answer: Friends are people who like you for who you are, not for what they want you to be. If you're really my friend, back off.

Tactic #4: Do you want everybody to think you're a nerd?

Answer: Sure I care what other kids think of me. But if they base their opinions on stuff like smoking, their opinions aren't worth much.

Tactic #5: I bet you're just scared your parents will find out.

Answer: I wouldn't blame my parents for getting teed off. How can I expect them to treat me like an adult if I sneak around and act like a kid?

It's natural for you to want to be just like your friends.

But if you don't smoke, maybe your friends will want to be just like you.

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Right On!

DELISA DAVIS (SHALAMAR)



Right On!

(MIDNIGHT STAR)



FROM THE CLOSET OF

JERMAINE STEWART



Former backup singer Jermaine, who has worked with Shalamar and Culture Club, has been living in England for the past two years and has adopted an inter-continental wardrobe.

TV'S HUNK OF CHOCOLATE

Philip Michael Thomas has been around for a long time, but his starring role on *Miami Vice* is his biggest break. He's currently enjoying success as one of the only black romantic characters in a series.



BY CYNTHIA HORNER

RO: We just ran some old photos of you in a feature "Scenes From The Past." You still look the same.

PHILIP: I know. God has been good to me. I'm basically a vegetarian, but I've eaten more meat since I've been down here in Florida than I've eaten in the last 15 years. I've gained weight, too. I'm able to carry it pretty well, though. I've been ranging between 160 and 170. I prefer being thin and agile though so I can move fast.

RO: How did you get started eating meat again?

PHILIP: I don't know. It was just there. I guess. Don't get me wrong, I don't do it all the time.

RO: Why don't you talk about your physical fitness program.

PHILIP: I miss jogging five to 13 miles a day. I haven't been able to get to a gym either, but I'm still in perfect shape. I have the body of a person 10 years younger than I am. I've been working on an album so I'm getting back on my diet and am doing things to tone my body.

RO: You've always had good skin. Is TV make-up interfering with it?

PHILIP: I wear very little make-up, just base. What people see on TV is all me. People come up and say, "Oh, my God, you're even more handsome in person. TV doesn't do anything for you." But I'm just a healthy person. I take herbs, do internal cleansing to keep me looking young and vibrant.

RO: You have been in this business for a long time. There are a

continued on page 43

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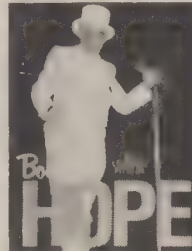
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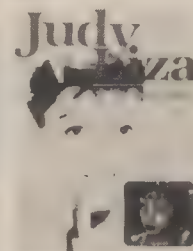
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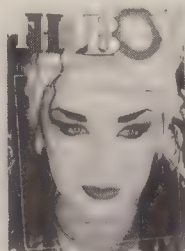
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TELEVISION continued from page 41



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lot of roles you weren't able to get at the time because you didn't fit the stereotypical image of a black man. How has that changed?

PHILIP: When people used to ask me what nationality I was I'd tell them I was an American. I am a man. They would always ask about my parentage because they couldn't categorize me. They would tell me I was too exotic for commercials. I have never liked being limited. I don't think it's right when people put you in a category and say you can't do this or that. Now because I'm in a multi-million dollar television series, doors that were closed to me before are opening. I think that's fantastic because I've maintained my integrity. I haven't messed over anyone.

RO: *I was excited to find out that you got the part of "Tubbs" on Miami Vice. How did it happen?*

PHILIP: There were about 300 people auditioning for my role, but when they had me read with Don Johnson, there was magic. It was like an explosion. I heard about the role over a year ago and at the time the show was called "Gold Coast." The character was conceived around what my interpretation of a character was on an episode of *Starsky & Hutch*. When I found that

out, I told them they didn't have to look any further, I was the person for the role. My grandfather used to say, "All that I see belongs to me" and he said it one hundred years ago and the land is still in the family, so I claimed it. I looked at this potential role the same way.

RO: *How did you feel when you learned the part was really yours?*

PHILIP: I have gotten to the point where I don't get as excited as I used to. I'm more enthusiastic. You know, "enthusiasm" comes from the Greek word "enthousiasmos" which means inspired.

RO: *Are any members of your family with you on location?*

PHILIP: My younger brother George is my bodyguard now. He is more handsome than I am. He's about 6'4" and has a lot of muscle. I feel well protected. I look at this big ole tall dude and say I remember when I used to smack him on the side of his head.

RO: *Do you swim often?*

PHILIP: As much as I can. The water here is phenomenal. I'm in the ocean as much as possible because the ocean is where I find freedom and it's close to God. I pray there, too. It makes me feel tranquil.



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SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Take a seat, relax and have a few bits of popcorn. We're about to take you to a movie. And since it stars Eddie Murphy, it's definitely a comedy!

Los Angeles has numerous canyons that pockmark its geographical layout. They are seen by the inner city folks, both black and white, as an escape, a sanctuary away from the choking freeways that have given Los Angeles an identity as the world's largest parking lot. It was in one of these canyons that I found Eddie Murphy comfortably sequestered away from his hectic and demanding shooting schedule.

BY GARY JACKSON

Eddie was sitting on a sofa casually watching a TV movie but not engrossed in it at all. His eyes are always on the move, observing people and things to catch what little snippets he can stash away for future use in his comedy skits. A meatball sandwich was cooling off on the table. He asked if I'd care to share the sandwich, but I politely declined the offer after having my share of junk just before the interview.

Before the interview, let's run down a brief history of Eddie Murphy. Eddie has experienced a meteoric rise within the space of three short years. He has been hailed, along with Joe Piscopo, as the saving grace of *Saturday Night Live*. After the original cast disbanded, a virtual caravan of "comedic" actors and actresses tried their hands at maintaining the glory days of *SNL*. They failed miserably.



Eddie and Joe shone through like diamonds in the rough—with the result that they were retained while others were fired. Invariably, the most successful skits on *SNL* involved Eddie and Joe as they were allowed to fully explore their individual and collective

talents. Eddie has created such outrageous characters as Buckwheat, Little Richard Simmons, Velvet Jones, a James Brown "Annie," Gumby and numerous others. His ingenious and bold attacks on everything sacred to both black and white America

simultaneously focused heavy praise and criticism on Eddie, but one fact remains irrefutably true: Eddie Murphy is a gifted comedian/actor who has the awesome talent to bring out hidden emotions, fears and foibles that force us to examine ourselves and accept the known truth that, no, we are not perfect, so we might as well laugh while we try to better ourselves.

Q: How did you get into comedy, anyway?

Eddie has often been referred to as "the cleanest-cut comic around"; one who doesn't smoke, drink or use drugs. Though he may mimic the use of each in his act, that's just what it is—an act!

A: I used to get into Gong Shows and stuff like that when I was a kid of about 15. I would call up agents and say, "I'm a funny guy—can you give me work!?" And they'd say, "Get out of here!" Then one guy started getting me showcases in bars and little tiny clubs out on Long Island.

Q: So, you're from Brooklyn. Did you pick up your comedy skills by hanging out on the streets?

A: Well, I moved out to Long Island when I was 10. I lived in Roosevelt, and it has trees and stuff. We'd hang out by the trees singing, "Oh ah oh ay," and skim rocks off the lake. I grew up as a middle class black—never went to bed hungry. I had a happy life. I want to know what the catch is 'cause God gave me a happy life, and I'm wondering, "This is a joke here, right?" And God is saying, "Heyyy, things are going great, huh? Well, ZING!"

Q: I saw an interview on *Entertainment Tonight* and read the article in *TV Guide*, and the gist that I got was that you wanted to reassure the people that you didn't want to be another Freddie Prinze.

A: That's the first thing that they were trying to get out of the *TV*

Guide article. It makes for interesting reading that someone young is suicidal. They gotta read that Eddie Murphy is suicidal instead of Eddie Murphy's got his head together. That was the hook in *TV Guide*: "Oh, in *TV Guide*, he sounds pompous and arrogant."

Q: On the old *Saturday Night Live*, Garrett Morris seemed to be holding back and wasn't given roles as good as you got. Why is that?

A: I don't know if Garrett was holding back. I think he was held back. I don't think that he had the freedom. When I was first on the show, I was held back. There were things that I would say that were funny, and someone would be blase and say, "No, we want so and so to do it," and I'd say, "But it would be funnier if I said it," and they'd say, "No, he does it." And when our show first changed casts, there were things that I knew would work better if they

were done differently. My opinion wasn't respected. I think it was

He hails from Roosevelt, New York, the "second most famous person" to come out of that city. Julius Erving, Dr. "J" of the Philadelphia 76ers, is the first!

the same case with Garrett. You see, Garrett was on a show that was good, so he would give his opinion, and they would say shut up. I don't think that they actually said shut up. This is my belief—Garrett Morris is a real talented guy. I could see him saying, "Hey, I feel this way and that way about it, but the show was a hit, and they already had

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their game plan set and didn't listen to Garrett. I, on the other hand, was affiliated with a show that was a bomb. So I would say, "Well, I feel this and that," and they would say, "We don't have anything to lose, so let's listen to this guy." That's why thing worked out for me.

Q: How do you feel about people saying that you're the next Richard Pryor?

A: I ain't no next Richard Pryor. Ain't nobody gonna be the next Richard Pryor. I feel good about having acceptance and having people appreciate my talent. I don't know what heights I'll achieve as far as this business goes, but I'll be shooting for everything and want everything that I can get out of the business. Right now, I'm happy with my situation, and I'd be happier if it got better—and I'd be depressed if it got worse—but I'm happy right now.

Q: You've got an album out. How do you feel about that?

A: I'm real proud of my standup comedy album, 'cause it's mine. On the back, it says "Produced by Eddie Murphy. Written and created by Eddie Murphy." It's mine.

Q: How did you go about creating the situations on the album?

A: I have no idea. No, really, careful watching, real careful watching. I guess I am real analytical. I'm always picking

The 23-year-old entertainer puts in up to 12 hours of work a day when doing Saturday Night Live—hard work and long hours are part of the secret of his success!

stuff apart.

Q: When is your birthday, anyway?

A: April 3rd, 1961. Kids today have different things. They make nice cars nowadays. Back in the '20s, they didn't make nice cars. They didn't have anything to live for. They'd say, "I don't want to go to school anymore. What do I

want, a Studebaker?" Now the kids see Porsches and want to drive those. "I want to drive a Porsche, a Mercedes, this and that." Look at the way they used to dress in the '20s, the '30s, the '40s. Nobody wants that. In the '20s, they used to wear top hats when you were rich. Kids didn't want that! The h--- with it; I'll be poor and have no shoes. Now it's like they have the brims and nice leather coats. Now they have something to live for. In the '50s, I wouldn't have wanted to be walking around with leather jackets, no shirt on, big black

Walter Hill, the director of 48 HRS., Eddie's film debut, says he was picked by his work on SNL alone. "We never sent a script to anybody else. We wanted Eddie Murphy," remembers Hill.

boots and grease in my hair. Now we're driving a Mercedes Benz. That's how my uncle calls them—Mercedes Benz.

Q: What's your family life like? How many kids are in your family?

A: Two others—my big brother and my little brother. My big brother is 25, and my little brother is 17. Got two parents.

Q: Okay, what do you do when you're out to movies? What forms of recreation, fun and relaxation, do you get involved in?

A: I like Long Island. All my friends are on Long Island. I like to hop in my car, drive down to the park and sit around. I go back to my reality. When you run around in Hollywood doing movies, riding in limousines or doing *Saturday Night Live*, you forget, you lose your mind, you start believing all this star s---. I can tell when it gets too bad. Like the *TV Guide* article, that's when it was getting too bad. They caught me when I was believing some of the star s---. I read the article and said I'd better cool out. Everybody loses their minds in the business. Everybody has had an article

written where you read it and say, "This crazy guy has lost his mind," and he's believing that he is great because everybody is patting him on the back saying that "you are great, I love you." That's why I'm dying to get back home 'cause that's where my reality is. I haven't tripped since I've been out here. I haven't ego tripped or anything like that for months now 'cause that *TV Guide* article came out, and I said to myself, "Man, you sound like an idiot." A lot of it was misquoted, too.

I got friends who would say, "I don't want to hang out with this big -ss nosed m.f." Anybody and anyplace else would say, "Hey



Murphy, how ya doing!" There's immediate acceptance. There's no challenge in life, socially, when you have immediate acceptance. That's why I have a relationship with a lady now. Guys that have been in the business, like singing groups that got famous when they were young—they must have no raps now. If you just meet a girl she'll go, "AAAHHH, OOOHHH!" you know? You've just taken everything away from them so that, socially, they're just stupid—they stopped growing. I go back to Roosevelt, and people know me. I have to earn my raps because I ain't Eddie Murphy, Superstar. I'm Eddie Murphy with the big nose and the gap between this teeth.

Q: Do you think you'll ever want to go back to a 9 to 5?

A: Oh, never, I would love to work from 9 to 5 if it was a regular TV show, but then, I don't like to get up early in the morning. I say that I come in on those hours, but that's basically what I do. There are times that I'm up there 12 hours a day, six days a week, and there are times when I'm up there three hours a day, six days a week. There are times when I don't come in. It's very real. You don't *have* to do it. You can watch the show and tell whether or not I did my work that week. If you see me in just two sketches and don't see me anymore in the show, I jerked off all week. If you saw me all over the screen, then I was working 12 hours a day.

His audiences love him, despite the fact that when he's "on," no one is sacred. Eddie will attack any group, although you know he's just kidding.


"Sometimes I think the audience is going to get mad," he reflects, "but they never do!"

Q: Now, about your recording specifically "Boogie In Your Butt." Did you write that?

A: I improvised that. It took about

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Irene Cara



At age 26, Irene Cara has had an impressive career as a theatre/motion picture/television actress, singer, dancer, and songwriter. Born in the Bronx, she was reared in a musical family. Among her hit records for which she has won several awards for are "Fame," "What A Feeling," and "Why Me." Irene has also starred in City Heat, Sparkle, Aaron Loves Angela as well as Roots, Fame and The Guyana Tragedy.



Pointing Toward Success

BY BRUCE NESBITT

Many music critics feel that popular black music of the '80s has reached a cul-de-sac with pulsating rhythms and riffs ground out on machines by technicians in a recording studio. Despite such observations, the spirit which gives black popular music its soul shows no real sign of strain even with the assault of electronic gimmicks.

A case in point is StarPoint, a

sextet from the Washington, D.C. area. Good musicianship, dynamic vocals and original songwriting reaffirms that black popular music can survive in its salubrious form, yet have a sound that remains fresh, innovative and hip.

StarPoint is relatively new to the recording business, but has built up an impressive record in the three years they have been involved having released six albums.

The group is composed of the four Phillips brothers: Ernesto, leader, songwriter and guitarist;

George, keyboards and vocals; Gregory, drums and vocals, plus lead singer; Renee Diggs and keyboardist, vocalist, Kayode Adeyemo. Together the band has a cohesive and contemporary sound both live and recorded.

Renee, StarPoint's lead singer, who is soft-spoken conversationally, on stage and disc displays an impressive vocal talent. She explained, "I've been singing as far back as I can remember. I was with a group of people first, a quartet, prior to joining StarPoint. How I became a member of this group was that George Phillips, one of the band members, asked me to sing one song with the group. One song led to another and another and the chemistry seemed to work very well."

She also adds, "When I was in school, I had a great teacher who helped me to learn the proper way



to breathe, and that was a great help. And I listened to a lot of other singers too. In fact, I don't listen to the radio the way I used to—I'm much more critical."

When asked if she had any special warm-up exercises she uses before a performance, Renee sheepishly admits, "No. Not really. I guess I'm kind of lazy when it comes to that. I just want to jump into it, but I do spend a lot of time body-building using different kinds of machines and I do a lot of aerobic dancing, which I think helps with the choreographed routines for the band's live performances."

Renee gave insights into her parents' views of her being a pop singer and being on the road. "Well, I don't think it is what they had in mind for me. I guess they thought I would get a job as a secretary and get married and have a couple of children, but now they are happy for my success. And she adds with a shy smile, "And I suppose they are a little proud."

Since she works in a band with five men, *Right On!* asked if that

posed any problems. She replied, "Oh, it's not hard. It is more like a family, like having five brothers who kind of look out for me all the time. And we have a lot of fun together, which is why we like working with each other so much."

As mentioned earlier, the group has recorded six albums for three different labels including Elektra, for whom they currently record. Ernesto comments on the affiliation with Elektra, "We have recorded six albums, but we have only been in the business three years. Although the band has actually been together for 11 or 12 years, we didn't get serious about it until we started writing. So we have been doing music for quite a while, but not recording and writing."


StarPoint has also achieved relatively good record chart success with a featured single, "Don't Be So Serious." This became a top-15 R&B chart hit as well as "I Just Wanna Dance With You" and "Keep On It." They also have just completed a music-video project, "It's All Yours," which is also their

current LP's first single.

Some of their success can be attributed to producer/manager, Lionel Job, who joined forces with StarPoint three years ago when a mutual friend urged him to hear a demo-tape and he was very impressed.

When the members of StarPoint are not busy with performing, writing, practicing or recording, they get involved in studio and session work. For example, recently Renee Diggs laid down some background tracks for a new Marcus Miller project.

Each member of the group is interested in producing records using local talent from their area in the future. But StarPoint's main priorities right now, according to Ernesto Phillips, are "We hope to reach a wider audience, as I'm sure any artist would like to do. We hope to keep on doing what we do best, to continue to make good recordings, keep up that same tradition and add a little more, learn and develop. We just know we want to continue to give a positive message." •



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THE DAY I MET NEW EDITION

BY ROBIN MILLING

I met NEW EDITION on a weekday afternoon at their hotel in New York. When I got there they were busy studying with their tutor, which they diligently do five days a week, three to four hours a day. Ricky Bell shook my hand and asked me to go to another room one floor down to wait for them. The first thing that struck me at that moment about these five young men was how dedicated they were. Not only are they dedicated to their music but they deeply respect the people who are involved with their career and who have guided them to the stardom that they experience today.

One inspirational factor in all of their lives are their parents. Ricky who is 17, talked about why they dedicated the album to their mothers. "They inspired us a lot. As we were growing up our parents always took care of us and without them behind us 100% I don't think we could've done it or gone as far as we have already. When we first started out they were telling us how proud they were and glad we weren't out on the streets doin'

other things... that we were doin' somethin' good."

Ronnie De Voe who is 17 and the most softspoken of the five added, "We were all a family before we really got started and that's the way it is now."

Their mothers also represent the kind of women that they would all like to meet some day. Ricky has sometimes been described as a "ladies man," and he told me he is not exactly looking for a woman like Sheila E. "My ideal woman is my mother. I would need someone to take care of me. Someone that I could share everything with, my deepest feelings." Ralph Tresvant, 16, who I found to be very outgoing and motivated expressed his idea of the kind of girl he'd like to meet. "If ever I did meet a girl, I'd want her to be just like my mother because she's done everything for me. She's helped me when I need help and that's the type of relationship I'd want to have with an ideal lady."

Many things are important to NEW EDITION. One thing they strongly believe in is staying in

school. Ricky told me about a campaign they ran to convince kids not to play hooky. "It was a school drive. Across the country we go to the schools that are picked with the highest dropout rate and we talk to the students encouraging them to stay in school. We tell them whatever they want to be in life, it all has to start right in school."

School is just one important issue for NEW EDITION. They are very conscious of the image they want to portray to their fans through their music. Ralph described what he thought NEW EDITION stood for in terms of being able to express their ideas, but most of all making them work. "We want to show a positive image. A clean idea of where we're coming from. To let 'em know anybody can make it. All they have to do is want it bad enough. The people around us always tell us that school's important and where we come from it was kinda hard to get those messages across. As we got into the group we realized that everybody in the group had the





same type of family that would teach us if trouble started happenin', if somethin' was goin' down, to fade away. We were always the people to slide back so we want people to come behind us that way."

NEW EDITION are from what Bobby Brown described as the "ghetto" in Boston. They started out on the streets trying to make extra money to do the things they wanted to do. Bobby said starting the group NEW EDITION made him feel like he accomplished something and did the right thing in his life. Ronnie added, "As far as not getting the things we want before, we were young and anything we did get we appreciated, but we weren't old enough to say, 'You know I'm not gettin' this and I need to work real hard for it.' Back then we were just enjoyin' our early life."

Ralph told me how they overcame this feeling of deprivation. "What we did know is that we didn't always have the money to go see movies or buy sneakers we saw someone else wear and we started gettin' into groups and go to a pizza shop as a group and movies and it started gettin' to a point where we can buy a house together!"

Today a house, tomorrow the world! They obviously devote a lot

of their time to achieving high aspirations. One thing I was curious about is what they did in their spare time aside from concentrating on thier music. Each one agreed that their private time is very precious to them. Ralph jokingly said, "We don't even have time to meet our mothers!" Ronnie summed it up, "Right now our lives are mainly focused on the group and our future. We don't want to get into a social life right now because it possibly could mess us up in our future." I still pursued my interest in their other interests such as sports, which most teenagers their age are involved



with. Ricky said, "Whenever we get the chance I like to go shoppin' or go to the movies or play basketball."

On the other hand, Ronnie made it clear that they weren't exactly your average run of the mill teenagers. "All of us play basketball and play a number of sports but we don't get enough time to pursue those sports." In fact even when they did have the opportunity to horse around the performance became a hindrance to their good time. Ralph told a funny story about mixing pleasure with business. "When we first started going to hotels and we saw the swimming pool everybody went crazy. The whole band jumped in. We would go swimmin' before the show and we'd go on stage and our eyes would be burnin' from the chlorine. You know how when you come out of a pool your nose is really clogged; your voice isn't right and all that so we learned from our mistakes."

Despite the absence of a social life at this time NEW EDITION doesn't regret making that sacrifice because they love being on tour and experiencing the excitement of the crowd. Ralph said, "My favorite part of being on tour is going on stage. Once I'm on stage everything I've done before

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pays off like interviews like this one, or going to visit fans at record stores or seeing how much they like your music it makes you wanna go on stage right there at that time while you're talkin' to 'em. I just can't wait." Ronnie added, "What really gets me up is the excitement that we get from the fans. When they're screamin' and yellin' our names that really gives me a lot of energy to do a hot

to form a group was that we could go to a movie and things and now it's gotten to a point where we can't even go to a movie sometime. We can't go out into the public as much because our faces are on posters and in magazines and once they're spotted it's like chaos. I'd say a lot of our teenage life was taken away. Like Michael Jackson never really got a taste of his teenage life. He knows what he's

and when we woke up it was like, 'Wow'. We almost had the chance to stay the night but unfortunately we had a big meeting for our record deal with MCA and Michael said that it was important that we attend the meeting."

Throughout their travels on and off the road, NEW EDITION have been given very invaluable advice by fellow performers such as Gladys Knight and Rick James. Ricky reiterated Gladys' philosophy. "She told us get more into the business, the money aspect of it. There's really no one in the business you can trust so we really need to know like how much we get paid to do a show." Ronnie told me what Gladys had to say about remaining humble. "She gave us a lot of advice about not gettin' into drugs and also stayin' in school and not gettin' a big head about the business. It wouldn't be hard 'cos fans tellin' you that they love you and you would be tempted to have your head swell a little but she told us to stay down." Ralph added with a laugh, "And Rick James, his crazy soul, we love 'em. He said just keep goin'; whatever you got in mind don't be afraid to express it; ask questions 'cos you got a good thing goin'."

Rick James was on the right track about these uniquely talented Bostonians. Their ideas and hopes for the future further exemplify the dedication I spoke of earlier. They are also anxious about writing their own material and keeping on top of their music. Bobby told me, "We hope to be doing movies and producing other acts and bringin' other people up to from where we came from and other people we know that have talent but it's just now being brought out. We also want to get our own record company." (Watch out, MCA!)

I think Ronnie said it best when he described NEW EDITION as, "Five young men who are dedicated to their job and hope to achieve much success and just be able to live a comfortable life and knowing that you've helped people on your way up. We want to continue to bring good music to each and everyone everywhere." •



show." Bobby shares the same thrill of performing, "I feel like the stage is my second home."

NEW EDITION has undoubtedly claimed a notable position in the musical limelight. They've done numerous interviews and made so many television appearances that I'm sure even they've stopped counting! What really keeps them going is the response they get from their fans. Ronnie said, "We try to treat our fans with a lot of respect. We'll sign an autograph for 'em whenever we can. If we have the time we'll take a picture with them. It's only when we want to sign autographs or want to go out in the public. We have privacy in our hotel rooms where we can cool out if we don't have a show." (Everybody joined in with a verse of "Cool It Now" laughing).

Ralph honestly admitted that he sometimes needs a break from the spotlight. "Our lives have changed a lot from our teenage lives. We don't have a normal teenage life. The whole idea for us

missed through word of other people, but we've been through it so we know what's been taken away from us so we think back on it and it makes us want to go back to it so bad."

Speaking of Michael Jackson, NEW EDITION had their chance of a lifetime meeting with the one and only whom they all idolize, thanks to publicist Steve Manning. Ronnie and Ralph told me the story as if they were re-living the entire experience. "It was a feeling that you really can't explain 'cos we were in his house and as soon as you walk in the door it's like an open space and there's a stairwell and we were standing there watchin' him walk down the stairs. It seemed like a video. It seemed like he appeared all of a sudden, like a puff of smoke came and he was there and he came down singin'. He gave us advice to start writin' our own music. A few days later everybody couldn't believe we were really there. It seemed we all had the same dream

Right On! Goes To The Movies!

“THE COTTON CLUB”



Maurice and Gregory Hines starred as two brothers whose conflicting career plans keep them from being a unit in the film. Eventually they get back together and team up for some fancy footwork which is definitely one of the film's brighter spots. Maurice portrays Clay Williams and Greg is the famed Sandman Williams.

IBY now the long awaited *Cotton Club* has debuted and many of you readers have heard there was a lot of behind-the-scenes flack going on, but just how bad was it? We talked to *Right On!*'s model/actor friend Sam Bono who was part of the illustrious cast.

When Sam looks back on the *Cotton Club* experience, he merely laughs these days. "My conclusion is that it was all very political. Robert Evans was supposed to direct it, but when Francis Ford Coppola came in, there was a clash of egos. That's when the original concept was changed. Coppola re-

wrote the script."

According to Sam, he worked on the movie for seven and a half weeks portraying one of the fair-skinned handsome young men who worked at the Harlem night-spot. He was paid generously for his services, but when he went to

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From left to right: Tyrone Spears, Vodie Najack, Richard Gere, Sam Bono and Patti Austin. All of these performers started out in the film, but only Richard Gere can boast of keeping his role. Everyone became friends out of this experience, however, it's too bad it didn't work out differently.

Right On! Goes To The Movies!

see the film, found that his part ended up on the cutting room floor, a fate which applied to many of the black actors who were hired. "It would have been good, but it was misleading," he said ruefully, although he allowed the choreography was pretty good. According to another source, George Faison, the original choreographer, was fired (he's most well known for his work in the *Wiz*), Grammy nominee, Patti Austin's singing scenes were cut and Irene Cara was ejected from the script after a reported creative differences disagreement. The latter incident was especially unfortunate as Irene's presence might have helped save the picture. Sam, who got to be friends with the cast; said that the star Richard Gere was telling people he didn't even know what the movie was about; that it was being conceived on a day to day basis.



Actor Sam Bono is one of many black actors who found out all his scenes were on the cutting room floor, but he won't let that bad experience deter him.



Tap dancing was the only real highlight in the historical disaster.



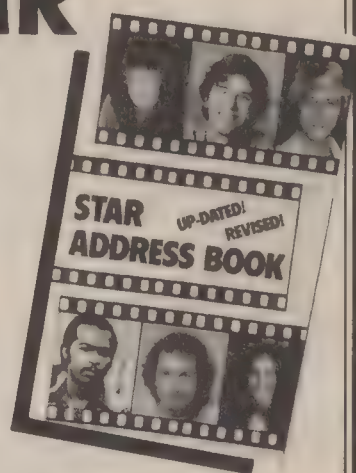
Lonette McKee and Greg Hines have several songs on the soundtrack.

Sam, who appears on *All My Children* from time to time, felt the experience was a learning one. The 23-year-old actor concluded his remarks about the film by stating he felt Coppola was probably afraid the film would lose its mass market appeal by the appearance of too many black actors. As a result, instead of the movie being an historical account of the colorful entertainment era, the emphasis was on several gangsters who used the club as a meeting place.

Instead of letting a disheartening experience discourage him, Sam has, in the meantime, turned his sights in another direction. He is presently trying to raise funds for Benny Clory (a dancer who does appear briefly in the film) who broke his neck practicing a routine shortly after the filming of *Cotton Club*. The dancer who is of course paralyzed, has a wife and children. Anyone who would like to contribute to the cause may send donations to Benny Clory in care of P.O. Box 20641, New York, N.Y. 10025.

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CLARENCE CLEMONS, COME BLOW YOUR HORN!

BRUCE
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SAX PLAYER
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THE CROWD.

BY VERNON GIBBS

The saxophone has been an integral part of rock and roll for as long as rock has rolled. In the '50s almost every uptempo rock and roll record had a wild and crazy sax solo and the saxophone became sound only to the electric guitar as a signature for the emerging sound. Eventually the electric guitar took over completely but the combination of guitar and sax remained among the most exciting or rock's myriad styles and directions. In the mid-'70s, after rock had survived the breakup of The Beatles, the death of psychedelia, rock and roll revivalism, heavy metal, glitter and a host of other fads, fallacies, trends, mini trends and counter trends, Bruce Springsteen came from out of the Jersey Shore to be called "the future of rock."

Even though that tag seems as questionable now as it did then, Springsteen did eventually make enough of a splash to become known as "The Boss." With a string of platinum albums to make the claim stick including his latest *Born In The U.S.A.* The album that took him out of obscurity after several near failures was called *Born To Run* and in it Springsteen revived the guitar/sax combination that had languished for several years by featuring Clarence Clemons as the heart and soul of The E Street Band whose backup musi-



chianship allowed Springsteen to rise above the predictable fare of '70s rock.

Clemons's gritty powerful sax style is rooted firmly in the best of the soul/sax tradition with the most obvious influences being that of Junior Walker and King Curtis. When it was time for him to do his first solo album, *Rescue* which was released last year on Columbia Records, Clemons deliberately set out to make an album that would reflect the era whose influence has given him years of success; the classic rhythm and blues best defined by King Curtis' sax and Wilson Pickett's vocals.

"King Curtis was my basic influence," admits Clemons. "Of course Jr. Walker did have some influence but King Curtis always surfaced as *the* musical influence. I'm a rock and roller at heart, I've always played rock and roll but I was searching for a classic sound like from around the mid-'60s with a Wilson Pickett vocal sound, that's what I wanted to say in my music

because that's a missing element today, you can't hear that on radio anymore, you don't hear it anywhere anymore and that was rock and roll to me."

Clemons knew he was taking quite a chance with this approach because while it is quite permissible for young white artists to raid any part of black musical history and come up with so-called "new" sounds, black artists are mostly confined to the present and that means synthesized funk. Clemons resisted the suggestions that he do a modern funk album and instead did an album he would like.

"I'm not into funk," he says without hesitation, "it sounds too much alike and I don't get too much out of it, it's boring to me. I wasn't into disco, I'm a rocker... it's the animal that lives inside me. I look at the horn as an extension of myself, it's a big forceful sound and I'm a big forceful guy, you have to have that animal inside just to push it out there."

So after 10 years with one of

rock's most legendary characters, Clarence Clemons has come out on his own. Even though he has no intention of leaving Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band, Clarence and his band The Red Bank Rockers are out there to make a name for themselves touring and recording in the long interludes between Springsteen albums. The relationship between Springsteen and Clemons remains one of the music business' more fascinating marriages as it transcends the usual leader/sideman syndrome and instead provides a lesson in how people of different ethnic backgrounds can work together.

"He admires me and I admire him," Clemons reveals the secret, "and we have great respect for each other. I want to be like him and he wants to be like me and it works. When we first jammed it was like we'd been together forever, like a team and it's a great learning situation. When you stop learning, you die and I don't want to die yet. I got a lot to learn and a lot to teach."

Clemons, a member of the Bruce Springsteen E Street Band, is the only black group member. "I'm not into funk," he admitted to writer Vernon Gibbs. "It sounds too much alike and is boring to me." Clemons also has a solo career with Columbia Records. He once did a video where he was the U.S. President ala Jesse Jackson.



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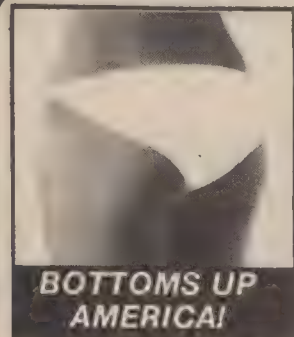
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GETTING IT STRAIGHT



Does Kim have a steady?



Is Rebbie married?



Does Jeffrey Osborne have children?

Q: *How are Rockwell and Jermaine Jackson related?*

Bridgette M.
Los Angeles, CA

A: Rockwell's sister Hazel Gordy is married to Jermaine which makes them brothers-in-law.

Q: *Why does James DeBarge often wear his hair in a ponytail?*

A Fan
Binghamton, NY

A: He prefers long hair and tying it back keeps it out of his face.

Q: *Do you plan to do an interview with Randy Hall? I'm dying to find out more about him.*

Tiffany Griffin
Dallas, TX

A: Randy Hall will appear in our next issue; we've already interviewed him.

Q: *Will Lakeside go on tour any time soon?*

A Fan
Birmingham, AL

A: Lakeside is always doing concerts. We're sure you'll be seeing them soon.

Q: *What is the real reason Apollonia Kotero replaced Vanity in the singing group and in the "Purple Rain" movie?*

A Reader
Franklin, TN

A: Vanity was reportedly unhappy about her salary for the movie and she decided it was time to go solo.

Q: *Is Kim Fields seeing anybody special? What about Todd Bridges?*

Lorraine Stahling
Flushing, NY

A: Kim Fields has a steady boyfriend named Loy. Todd Bridges doesn't have a steady girlfriend.

Q: *Is Darcel Wynne married? Is Rebbie Jackson married? Is Lionel Richie going back to the Commodores? Did LaToya Jackson replace Marilyn McCoo on Solid Gold? How old is Vanity?*

Joseph Rush
Belzoni, MS

A: Both Darcel Wynne and Rebbie Jackson are married and have children. Lionel Richie has no plans to return to the Commo-

dores although he recently collaborated on a song on ex-Commodore member Thomas McClary's solo LP. LaToya Jackson was a guest hostess on *Solid Gold*, but no female ever replaced Marilyn McCoo. Vanity is 22.

Q: *Are there plans for any of the Jacksons to record solo albums?*

Tamera Morgan
Poughkeepsie, NY

A: Randy and Jackie will probably do solo albums soon.

Q: *Does Jeffrey Osborne have children? Where may I write to them?*

Thomasa Mitchell
Gary, IN

A: Jeffrey Osborne has a daughter. You can see a photo of her on the cover of *Right On!'s Super Special, Family Ties*, on sale everywhere. You may write to him in care of A&M Records, 1416 N. LaBrea Ave., Hollywood, CA 90028.

If you have a question you'd like to have answered about a recording artist or an actor who appears in this magazine, please send your letter addressed to: Getting It Straight/Right On! Magazine/The D.S. Building, 105 Union Avenue, Cresskill, NJ 07626. Sorry, letters may not be answered personally.

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PEN PALS OF THE MONTH

A 10-YEAR-OLD VIRGO IS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD. I LIKE LISTENING TO MICHAEL JACKSON AND PRINCE. I ALSO COLLECT MICHAEL JACKSON AND PRINCE POSTERS, PENS AND BUTTONS. SHE IS LOOKING FOR SOMEBODY INTERESTING. PLEASE SEND PHOTOS OF YOURSELF TO:
Latusha Marie Tyson
215 Archdale Dr.
Durham, NC 27707

AN 18-YEAR-OLD YOUNG LADY IS LOOKING FOR THOSE WHO LOVE TO WRITE. MY INTERESTS ARE MEETING AND WRITING TO PEOPLE WITH A GOAL IN LIFE, LISTENING TO MUSIC ALL DAY LONG, WATCHING FOOTBALL, AND CHALLENGES OF ALL KINDS. PLEASE WRITE, YOU WON'T BE SORRY!
Dorothy Carter
119-15 Farmers Blvd.
St. Albans, NY 11412

A GOOD-LOOKING 13-YEAR-OLD IS LOOKING FOR A GIRL BETWEEN THE AGES OF 12 AND 14. HOBBIES ARE: TENNIS, BASKETBALL, POOL, AND MODEL CARS AND AIRPLANES. PLEASE SEND A PICTURE.
H. Holloway
28 Ash Court
Hempstead, NY 11550

AN 18-YEAR-OLD GIRL WHOSE HOBBIES ARE, MODELING, MEETING PEOPLE, DANCING AND WRITING, IS LOOKING FOR A PEN PAL. PLEASE SEND PHOTO.
Dana C. Whithers
1408 19th St., SE
Washington, DC 20020

AN AQUARIAN GIRL WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM BOYS AND GIRLS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 19. HOBBIES ARE: BASKETBALL, SOFTBALL,

TRACK AND GOING OUT AND HAVING FUN WITH FRIENDS. ALSO LOVES LISTENING TO NEW EDITION. SEND PHOTO IF POSSIBLE.
Lynn Williams
614 E. Moore St.
Norristown, PA 19401

A 16-YEAR-OLD GEMINI IS LOOKING FOR MALES BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 19 TO WRITE TO ME. MY HOBBIES ARE: DANCING, SKATING, COOKING, AND SINGING. MY BIRTHDAY IS JUNE 1ST, 1968. PLEASE SEND PHOTOS.
Joy Lynn McCowan
612 Somerset Dr.
Kokomo, IN 46902

AN 11-YEAR-OLD GIRL IS LOOKING FOR A PEN PAL. I LIKE TO LISTEN TO MUSIC BY MICHAEL JACKSON, RICK SPRINGFIELD AND PRINCE. I LIKE BASKETBALL AND BREAK-DANCING. I AM LEARNING TO PLAY THE CLARINET AND I PLAY THE ORGAN. I LIKE MEETING NEW FRIENDS AND I LIKE ANIMALS. I ALSO LIKE READING, WRITING LONG LETTERS TO PEN PALS AND FRIENDS, AND I ENJOY TALKING ON THE PHONE. I WANT A PEN PAL FROM AGES 11 TO 13, A GIRL OR A BOY.
Michelle Carter
944 Dutch Hollow Rd.
Dunbar, W. VA 25064

I AM A 19-YEAR-OLD FEMALE WITH LITTLE TO SAY, WHO WANTS TO HEAR FROM NICE GUYS WITH GOOD PERSONALITIES AND WHO DRESS NICE. MY HOBBIES ARE: CHEERLEADING, TRACK AND FIELD, GYMNASTICS AND GOING OUT AND HAVING A NICE TIME.
Ms. Anglea White
P.O. Box 47772
Los Angeles, CA

A LONELY 13-YEAR-OLD BOY IS LOOKING FOR A GIRL BETWEEN 12 AND 14. MY SIGN IS VIRGO. MY HOBBIES ARE RIDING MY BIKE, PLAYING FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL AND SKATEBOARDING. PLEASE WRITE AND SEND PHOTOS.
Bobby Johnson
23D Pear St.
Reading, PA 19601

I AM A 17-YEAR-OLD GIRL WHO NEEDS PEN PALS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. MY HOBBIES ARE SWIMMING, DANCING, COOKING, READING AND MUSIC.
Marium A. Bodley
P.O. Box 2055
Tanga, Tanzania
East Africa

I AM A 16-YEAR-OLD CAPRICORN THAT WANTS MALE PEN PALS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 18. I LOVE ALL SPORTS, AND I ALSO LIKE TO DANCE AND SKATE. IF YOU WRITE ME, I PROMISE TO WRITE BACK.
Gina Fields
11044 Carson Dr.
Lynwood, CA 90262

A GIRL BORN UNDER THE SIGN OF SAGITTARIUS IS LOOKING FOR A PEN PAL. I LOVE DANCING, READING, AND WRITING. I ALSO LOVE MOVIES AND MUSIC POEMS. GUYS AND GIRLS FROM 16 TO 25 WRITE:
Candi Thomas
560 Stuyvesant Ave.
Irvington, NJ 07111

I AM A VERY FRIENDLY GUY THAT WOULD LOVE TO MEET NEW, EXCITING FRIENDS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. I AM 28 YEARS OLD, AND MY ZODIAC SIGN IS SAGITTARIUS. MY HOBBIES ARE CHESS, WOODCRAFT AND ARTWORK. MY OVERALL

INTERESTS ARE: WRITING, MUSIC AND PLAYING MY GUITAR. I AM A SEMI-PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN. ALL INTERESTED PLEASE WRITE TO THE BELOW ADDRESS: "AND HURRY!..."
Edward Jones
P.O.B. 221-048597, B-31
Raiford, FL 32083

I AM A 16-YEAR-OLD GEMINI AND I ATTEND AN ALL-GIRLS CATHOLIC SCHOOL. I AM LOOKING FOR A GUY BETWEEN THE AGES OF 17 AND 20, PREFERABLY MATURE. MY HOBBIES ARE: ROLLER-SKATING, BIKE RIDING, AND HANGING OUT WITH FRIENDS AND BOYS. I ALSO ENJOY DANCING.
Kimberly Haygood
54 Ferndale Crescent
Rochester, NY 14609

I AM 13 YEARS OLD AND MY HOBBIES ARE: READING, SWIMMING, FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL AND VOLLEYBALL. MY FAVORITE ENTERTAINERS ARE THE JACKSONS, ESPECIALLY MICHAEL AND JANET, DEBARGE, PRINCE, NEW EDITION, LIONEL RICHIE AND MUSICAL YOUTH. I WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO WRITE TO GIRLS AND BOYS FROM OUT OF MY COUNTRY.
Verina Rodriguez
32 Tubrosse St.
BeLize, Central America

I AM 25 YEARS OLD. MY HOBBIES INCLUDE COOKING, READING AND TRAVELING. MY FAVORITE ENTERTAINER IS D.J. THOMPSON. I AM INTERESTED IN HAVING BOTH MALE AND FEMALE CORRESPONDING WITH ME FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.
Janet Daw
152 East Riumveldt
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15 minutes to do it. They put the music down, and I just walked into the studio and just talked about putting things in your butt. Everybody in the studio said that's funny, and I said, "Yeah? Well, then, let's put it on the market. If people buy it, it'll be a tremendous joke."

Q: Speaking of music, have you got any particular styles or groups of artists who are favorites?

A: I listen to old Sly and the Family Stone, old Four Tops music, Diana Ross and the Supremes. They make me misty, sitting around remembering the old days. I like The Beatles, and as far as contemporary music goes, I'm a Prince fanatic. I think Prince is bad. I got all of Prince's tapes. I even got that album, *For You*. If you've got *For You*, you must be a Prince fanatic. I think Prince is a musical genius. I take long drives listening to Prince.

Q: There aren't that many famous black comedians around these days. Do you have any explanations for that?

A: I think most comics are compared to Richard Pryor almost immediately. When you go into the clubs, most of the clubs are owned by white people. They turn brothers into like, niggers. They

go up and do this "nigger" comedy; "Ho, ho, ho! I know you're sitting out there thinking he's funny for a Negro jerk"—things like that. They're not black

Those who have actually see him live know that even though television gave him his break and he'll most likely go on to be a monumental film star, his stand-up comedy routine is his best work—and the essence of what Eddie Murphy is all about.

anymore, though their skin is black. You can do comedy about your blackness if you're coming from, if you're being black, if you're putting it across black. If you just come on the stage and say, "You know, it be different when black people do it than when white people do it. White people do it this way and black people . . ." That's bull. People look at my comedy and say that's ethnic, and it's not because I'm

doing it differently; it's because I'm a black person, and I give myself to my audience like a black person. I don't fall back on my blackness; to get a joke off and I don't make jokes about my blackness, I use my blackness because it's part of me, and I have funny past experiences, black experiences. I have the barber-shop guys, the bull_____ niggers down at the park and all that. Those guys, you look at me doing a characterization of those guys and it's real—those guys are real. Nobody says anything when a white comic does old Jews. I do old black men, and people say, "What is this blackness?"

Bull____—it comes out of my blackness. A lot of black comics go into the clubs, and they work out, then the owners come over to them and say, "You're being too risqué and don't be too militant—no one likes that." I didn't fall into that trap. I know a black comic who fell into that trap. Don't take it wrong, but I'm thankful they fell into it because there are some BAD comics out there. I sit around with some fellows in the business and eat with them at a table, and they had me rolling on the floor. Their minds are so brilliant, and I'm saying____, these guys could have taken my place on *Saturday Night*.

I'm blessed in that I knew what I wanted to do at an early age. All that stuff about talent and people saying that you're talented is b.s. The blessing comes from knowing what you want to do at an early age. I knew as a child I that I wanted to be a comedian, so I put all my energies into that. I didn't want to be anything else. But if it was like, "Wellll, I'd like to do comedy, but, uh, I would like to be a lawyer also." When you put all your energies into something, you'll get it. That's the key to success. If somebody says, "I want to be a model," ain't nothing gonna stop her 'cause I've looked in the papers and seen some women modeling that had to say, "I'm gonna be a model!" 'cause there are some ugly women modeling. Anything that you put 100% into, you'll get it. I believe that firmly.

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THE JACKSONS'

continued from page 25

music when they emerged onto the entertainment scene?

PLUS

- 3) What Beatles hit did ABC surpass to become number one on the charts in 1970?

PLUS

- 4) What song on the Thriller album does Shalamar lead singer Howard Hewett perform background on?
- 5) Which two Jacksons lent their musical talents to Rockwell's hit, *Somebody's Watching Me*? Who is Rockwell's famous father?

PLUS

- 6) Where does

Maureen, the eldest Jackson, make her home?

PLUS

- 7) There are three fabulous foot-steppin' Michaels in the *Beat It* video. Of course, Michael J., Michael Peters and Michael who? What popular television show is this Michael on?

PLUS

- 8) On what song, performed by Donna Summer, did Michael sing the chorus, which was made up of other great musical names?

PLUS

- 9) What record label did Maureen recently sign with?

1) Nine (2) Garnett Elementary School (3) Steeltown (4) Jackson Street (5) Marlon (6) Randy (7) Eight (8) Seven (9) Quincy Jones (10) Disney World, Orlando, Florida (11) Crane Operator (12) 1970 (13) Joyful Jukebox Music (14) Berry Gordy (before he signed with Motown) (15) Caro (16) Alfonso Robredo of the Broadway musical "The Tap Dance Kid" (17) Costume designer (18) De-cember 31, 1971 (19) No one. Michael didn't attend this award ceremony. (20) Sigmund (21) Katherine (22) I Want You Back (23) Ah... Michael, can you assist us on this one? How about a wild guess... 184. (24) Can You Feel It (25) The Falcons (26) 1949 (27) Destiny (28) She was a sales clerk at Sears. (29) Michael uses the word to mean "the best." (30) Ben (31) 18 (32) Jermaine (34) Tito (35) Marlon (36) Beats me, but they were sure a colorful clan. (37) Gladys Knight (38) Bernadette Robi, former wife of Lynn Swann (39) Life magazine (40) two (41) I'm A Big Boy Now (42) Dee Dee (43) Tito (44) Randy, bass (45) Bertha Gonna Need My Love (46) Me and My Best Friend (47) Twilight Zone (48) The Black America Pageant special (49) Dreamgirls (50) Got to Be There (51) The Say, Say, Say video, with Paul McCartney (52) "See you next Wednesday..." (53) Motown at the Hollywood Palace (54) Muscles for Diana Ross and Night Time Lover for Lloyda's album. (55) A Gary, Indiana neighbor (56) This one, I've been trying to figure out for three years. If you know the answer, you got one on me. (57) Quincy Jones and James Ingram (58) Nine (59) Jermaine (60) Jehovah's Witness (61) The robot (62) Never Can Say Goodbye (63) Jackie (64) Frankenstein and a werewolf (65) Stylish headbands (66) The pet cages at home (67) Penny and Charlene, respectively. (68) Two gloves mean you're cold, one glove means you're cool. (69) Someone coming up from a manhole. (70) Peter Pan (71) Ease on Down the Road from Home (72) Baby Be Mine and Lady in My Life (73) Billie Jean (74) It was a quite heated reply to Michael's hit Billie Jean. (75) Katherine Jackson (76) American Music Awards (77) Billie Jean (78) Shake Your Body (Down to the Ground) (79) Artist Records (80) A chicken (81) I Want You Back (1969), ABC, The Love You Save and I'll Be There (all 1970) (82) The Corporation (83) Shop & The Limmies in 1961 (84) Rockin' Robin (85) 1980 and 1981 (86) I Want You Back, Mama's Pearl, Sugar Daddy, Corner of the Sky, I Wanna Be Where You Are, I'll Be There, Never Can Say Goodbye, Rockin' Robin, Got to Be There and Enjoy Yourself. (87) Destiny, Triumph and Off the Wall (88) Louis (89) A neighborhood east of Hollywood known as Skid Row (90) Mama's Pearl (91) Dancing Machine (92) Little Bitty Pretty One (93) The title of the album was a namesake: Jackie Jackson and was released in 1973. (94) Riding motorcycles (95) Their car has plunged into a police officer on a motorcycle. Marlon is in the driver's seat. (96) Can't Get Outta The Rain (97) Chaka Khan (98) The clarinet (99) Mayor Richard Hatcher (100) Jackie and Jermaine. Plus... (1) James Brown (2) "Bubble gum soul" (3) Let It Be (4) P.T. (Pretty Young Thing) (5) Michael and Jermaine. Rockwell is the son of Motown giant Berry Gordy. (6) In the suburbs of Los Angeles (7) Michael DeLoenzio of the TV show Fame (8) Love is in Control (I Got My Finger on the Trigger) (9) CBS Records.

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PHOTOS BY DOUG ROWELL



Cute Johnny Gill has a new solo album out called "Chemistry" without pal Stacy Lattisaw, so our photographer Doug Rowell journeyed to Philadelphia to get a few snaps as he was crooning in the studio. It features material by Linda Creed, Lonnie Jordan, Dennis Matkosky, and Billy Neale.



In keeping with the tradition for R&B singers, Johnny, a D.C. resident, comes from a strong gospel background.



Johnny has gotten interested in all the behind-the-scenes details of putting together an album and will probably produce something on his own very soon.





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